

**The Historical Society
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Editorial Committee

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In Memoriam

**William Everett
Triplett**

August 6, 1924—August 16, 1979

President - 1976-1978

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HERALD HISTORY

From the Files of the Fairfax Herald
June 3, 1904

Captain Berry was the gallant commander of Co. G, 8th Va. Infantry. Was Commander of Marr Cam, C.V., until ill health compelled him to retire from the position. He was a brave, meritorious officer, and is one of our best citizens. He represented Fairfax County in the House of Delegates for one term; has been county surveyor and school trustee, and held other positions of trust and responsibility. For some time past he has been in feeble health, but, still retains lively recollections of the "days that tried men's souls," and loves to attend Confederate reunions.



CAPT. J. OWEN BERRY

THE CAPTURE AND ESCAPE OF CAPT. J. OWENS BERRY

Co. G—8th Regiment—Virginia Volunteers

Article compiled by
Orlo C. (Chip) Paciulli, III

In my endeavors to learn more about local and family history, I was fortunate to discover several articles concerning my great-great-grandfather, Capt. James Owens Berry (Born January 21, 1837, Georgetown, D.C. and died August 1, 1905, Ash Grove, P.O.).¹ A brief summary of Capt. Berry's civic activities is provided in the June 3, 1904 edition of the Fairfax Herald which was dedicated to Fairfax citizens in the Civil War. Capt. Berry was described as

“the gallant Commander of Co. G, 8th Va. Infantry. He was Commander of Marr Camp, C.V., until ill health compelled him to retire from the position. He was a brave, meritorious officer, and is one of our best citizens. He represented Fairfax County in the House of Delegates for one term. He has been County surveyor and school trustee, and held other positions of trust and responsibility. For some time past, he has been in feeble health, but still retains lively recollections of the “days that tried mens’ souls,” and loves to attend Confederate reunions.”

The Civil War unit with which Capt. Berry served was organized in Dranesville, Fairfax County in June of 1861 and was mustered into service at Centreville on July 16, 1861.² The majority of Co. G's members was from the Dranesville area, the only non-Fairfax County resident being Lieut. Berry³ who worked in the U.S. Patent Office in Washington, D.C.⁴ He was perhaps influenced to side with the southern cause by the family of his bride of 2 months, Josephine Gunnell of Dranesville. His confederate army career appeared to be short lived for he was captured during the battle of Balls Bluff, October 21, 1861 and shortly thereafter taken to Old Capital Prison. He escaped November 5, 1861 and rejoined his unit at Centreville. Following are two accounts of his episode: one written upon reunion with his unit in 1861 and the other upon request of the editor of the Fairfax Herald in 1887.

¹Family Bible.

²Guide to Virginia Military Organizations, 1861-1865, Lee A. Wallace, Jr.

³Fairfax Herald, May 13, 1887

⁴Washington Star, October 29, 1861

War of the Rebellion Official Records of the Union and
Confederate Armies—Series II, Vol III, Page 742-743

Centreville, November 15, 1861

General G. T. Beauregard,
Commanding First Corps, Army of the Potomac.

“Sir: I have the honor to report that I was made a prisoner at the battle of Balls Bluff Monday, Oct. 21, 1861. I was immediately carried to the river shore guarded by six men and was ferried across in a flat-boat to Harrison's Island, the boat being crowded with the enemy's wounded and men who had run away from the battle-field. After stopping on the island fifteen minutes or more I was ferried in another boat to the Maryland shore. Up to the time of my going down the bank to the island to cross to Maryland I had scarcely attracted any attention, but at this point, when about to enter the boat a captain who seemed to be superintending the embarkation of the wounded, when being told that I was a prisoner, exclaimed, “Hang him.” Being told again that I was a prisoner he repeated the exclamation. This appeal was not seconded by any voice that I heard. From the Maryland shore I was conducted to the camp of

the California Regiment and placed near a fire. Shortly after I was handcuffed and taken to a small tent, when the handcuffs were removed. At daylight of the following Tuesday morning the men of the brigade in large numbers assembled around my tent and for three hours abused me with the vilest imprecation.

Some of the brigade officers visited me afterwards, then there was partial cessation of the abuse. In the afternoon near sundown a captain of calvary and a lieutenant came to me and said that I was to be taken to Poolesville and that in obedience to orders they would be compelled to pinion my arms. I replied that I had seen a number of their officers prisoners in our camps and never saw one of them offered such an indignity and that I protested against the treatment. My elbows were then pinioned together and under guard of a lieutenant and four men I was conducted to Lt-Col. Wistar on the road to Poolesville. I called his attention to my arms being pinioned. He said that if I would promise not to attempt an escape my arms should be loosed. I gave the promise and my arms were untied. Arriving at the Poolesville, I was taken to the camp of the Massachusetts Fifteenth. The next morning, Wednesday, for a few hours I was insulted both by officers and men. After breakfast I was sent in a wagon down to General Stone on the river. He asked me what treatment I had received, and upon being informed, expressed regret. After remaining here a few hours I was sent back to the Massachusetts 15th and during the remainder of my stay in their camp had no cause to complain of my treatment, owing I suppose to General Stone's orders. General Stone afterwards visited me, making inquiries concerning my comfort which he seemed desirous to promote. The next Monday I was sent under a strong escort to Washington and there imprisoned in the Old Capitol building. I effected my escape from that prison Tuesday, November 5, arriving here yesterday. I have made this detailed statement, my treatment being in the cases I have stated so much at variance with what I had expected with usage of our treatment of their prisoners. I beg leave to remark that both the political and military prisoners in the Old Capitol Prison by their intelligence and dignified deportment reflect honor upon our country and our cause."

I am, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

J. Owens Berry
First Lieutenant, Eight Virginia Vol. Reg.

THE CAPTURE OF CAPT. J. OWENS BERRY

Fairfax Herald

Vol V—No. 49—Fairfax Court House

Virginia, May 6, 1887

Last week reference was made to the capture at Ball's Bluff, of Capt. J.O. Berry of Company G. By request that officer has furnished the following account of his capture on the occasion referred to, and his escape from prison:

In giving some incidents connected with my capture at Ball's Bluff, and my escape from the Old Capital Prison, as I can boast of no brilliant achievement I shall not adopt the superlative form of egotism—the third person. Returning after an absence of a few hours to where I had left the regiment bivouacked on Tuscarora Creek, to my surprise I found the place deserted. Riding some distance, the sound of musketry caused me to quicken my pace which soon brought me to General Evans, who, with some aids occupied a small earth redoubt in an open field. Saluting the General, I asked to be directed to the 8th regiment. His reply was brief and to the point: "In that wood the thickest of the fight." Again saluting, I galloped in the direction pointed out, where, issuing from the wood, appeared the familiar form of old George Hunter coming leisurely to the rear—permit here a digression: A more graphic pen may not in histories of the 8th regiment feel called upon to photograph George Hunter, or rather, his hat. He was the fifer of the regiment, in fact, embodied in his own person the "Fife Corps" of the regiment. No martinet of a drum major could say that his pitched notes could not be heard at "reveille," awaking every sleeper to roll-call and startling the birds from their nests.

But his hat—not the jaunty, sloping hat of the cadet, nor the pom-poned hat of a grenadier, but an old stove-pipe,—an ancient tile that conservative beaver of our good old papas. Shades of Napoleon and Winfield Scott: the "Fife Corps" of a crack regiment under such a hat! How much our gallant colonel admired it I never knew. Perhaps it was a reminder of the "piping times of peace." It continued for a long time a conspicuous object on drill and parade. George Hunter, peace to his ashes. The shrill strains of his fife floating back to us are softened to flute-like melodies, and to us George Hunter is a hero.

Giving my horse to a civilian, I penetrated the wood, passed several returning wounded, (one face bearing the impress of death), and without thought of the enemy was soon so close to a line of his skirmishers

deployed at close intervals, that I knew my only chance for escape was by a ruse. As I wore a blue coat similar to theirs, in the vain hope that they would mistake me for one of themselves, I faced in the direction they were faced, and commenced to move from them. But it would not do. I was most overwhelmingly made prisoner—*dead* captured. Chas. Dickens coined the expression “Dead as a door-nail” with prophetic intent to describe my capture.

I was the most captured man of the war; more individuals aspired to the honor of my capture than were engaged in the battle of Ball’s Bluff on both sides. Pistols, muskets, sabres and bayonets seemed to search for a vulnerable spot on my poor aching body, a howitzer not being automatic couldn’t come up to share in the exploit.

Then the curt demand: “What have you to say?” to this the very meek reply: “I am your prisoner.”

I shall say here at the risk of posing as a military critic—and what veteran could resist the fascination?—that skirmishers could have oftener been employed with advantage, as feelers in front and on the flanks, in drawing the enemy’s fire and as lines to retreat to and form upon when, being pressed, it became necessary to give the order (a most dangerous one) “Fall Back”.

Hurried with an ample guard down the declivitous hill to the edge of the river, I, with some of the wounded, was ferried in a scow over to Harrison’s Island—the scow going back to the Virginia shore for more freight. Returning, it brought the dead body of Col. Banker, the Union commander of troops crossed at this point. He was reverentially borne past me by some half-dozen—not upon a stretcher, but the opposite couples joining hands. He had been a man of commanding presence, whom I had seen, in the full vigor of life, addressing a listening Senate—now limp and helpless, a silent orator—no more a leader. Another arrival from the inhospitable shore was a poor fellow of fine physical proportions, perfectly nude, the water dripping from his white, shining skin. As he came up the sloping bank of the island, a round red mark near the middle of the body bore sure testimony to his part in the fray; a similar mark behind—no use for the probe. Others badly wounded swam to the island. Soon a murderous discharge of bullets whistling over the island; the familiar yell across the water, and I was hurried over the island and boated to the Maryland shore; thence to a guard fire, and late in the night to a California regiment’s camp.

The next morning had I been permitted to remain quiet in my quite comfortable guard tent, it would have taxed all my fortitude to bear this sudden and unexpected vicissitude of war. A comparative stranger to the

regiment and to the members of my own company, I had cut the bridges behind me; had joined the Confederate cause and intended to be *in* for the war. That morning I was in the dead colonel's camp, and as there was no exchange of prisoners, it looked like I was *out* for the war. At that time rebel prisoners were greater objects of interest than afterwards. At daylight I was on full exhibition. I confess my efforts to entertain the crowd were not commensurate with the interest they seemed to take in the *show*.

Before many hours it dawned upon me that the surging mass before me was not composed of Chesterfields. I even doubted its morality. The sounds that came to me had the simultaneous force of emetics and galvanic shocks. If I heard a word in the California camp that would not have grated upon a fastidious ear, it must have been produced by the accidental combination of all sounds unfit for ears polite. In a word, Colonel Baker's California regiment was the scum of the Eastern cities. Their equals could not have been erupted from sheol.

In the afternoon a captain of cavalry—in mien and address a gentleman—entered the tent. He said that he had a most disagreeable duty to perform, that in performing it he shared my humiliation, but that his orders were positive and he must obey them. Ye Gods!! must I tell it? and have it printed? Can I dull the edge of ridicule by outlaughing the laughers? This courteous officer had orders to pinion my arms and march me to Lieutenant-Colonel Wooster, of the 15th Massachusetts, then lying wounded at a farm house. Respecting this officer for the sentiments expressed, and his evident distaste for the duty, I told him that as I was powerless to resist such an indignity. I could only protest against its inflictions upon me, a soldier captured in honorable warfare. I then submitted. Going through the formality of the pinioning process, which was done so that my arms loosely joined from elbow to elbow, hung naturally by my side, we started to see the wounded Lt.-Col. We found him lying on a bed. I called his attention to my pinioned arms by apologizing for not removing my hat upon entering his chamber. Interchanging a few words with the guard, he freed my arms upon the condition that I would not attempt an escape. A short conversation ensued in which I expressed my regret that he in person was a sufferer by the late engagement, and the hope that he would speedily recover. At dusk, we reached Poolesville, where was encamped the remnant of the 13th Massachusetts. Conducted to an A tent containing a neat cot and blankets, but for the piercing wind that swept through the camp, I would have been comfortably sheltered. A summons brought by a subordinate officer came in the shape of an invitation to tea with Col. Devens (afterwards U.S. Attorney General). I

was presented to several present. I found a table abundantly provided. The slices of cold light bread, the absence of coffee, and the polite frigidity of my entertainers impressed me that I was at a "Boston Tea", an exotic "Boston Tea" not acclimated to the vapors overhanging the Potomac.

No wonder that these gentlemen ate their bread and drank their tea in almost silence. At our long table on our right and left, were vacant chairs more by odds than were filled. The 15th Massachusetts had indeed gone through the baptismal fire on the banks of our father Potomac. They mourned their killed, their drowned and their missing, and (to the soldier) the greatest clamity—their defeat.

The next day, in the afternoon, I was taken to Maryland Heights overlooking the river at Edwards Ferry, and dismounting from an ambulance, was Gen. Charles P. Stone advancing towards me.—Having commanded a company of Rifles in the District of Columbia Militia before the breaking out of hostilities, company business brought me in contact with him. He had personally inspected my company, and when it was time to resign my commission he had politely expressed regret at my withdrawal.

Almost his first words addressed to me were: "I believe you resigned and your resignation was accepted?" My reply was in the affirmative. He appeared serious and a little careworn. Calling an orderly to bring him a brand from a log fire to light his cigarette, he asked; "Who commanded on your side opposite Harrison's Island?" I answered: "General, I must decline to answer your questions of that nature." The pumping process to extract information as to our strength, etc., had been applied almost at the moment of my capture, and in every conceivable form had been continued up to this time. Gen. Stone, after another weak attempt, slightly apologetic, found me incorrigible, and gave it up. A sharp command, "Cannoneers, to your posts." had caused a little flurry. I noticed several large field pieces bearing upon the land across the river. The enemy had not withdrawn all his troops from the Virginia side, and was expecting to be attacked.

Sent back to the camp of the 15th Massachusetts, I had been there several days when the Guard was "turned out", and presented arms to General George B. McClellan and Stone, who passed by. In a few moments Gen. Stone returned, directed the sentinal to stand aside, and by a slight inclination of the head, signaled me to approach him. His object was to inquire concerning the treatment I had received since our interview of a few days before. He had then asked about my treatment, and had he been a stranger I would have disburdened my mind, but fearing

fest he might think me restive under any of the rigors of war, I answered that I preferred to say nothing. He insisted upon supplying me with money for my immediate personal necessities, and in such a way that I felt obligated to accept a small sum in gold which, fortunately, by the timely arrival in camp of a friend, I returned within an hour.

General Charles P. Stone, though an unfortunate commander, was my ideal of a model soldier and gentleman. I would have staked my life upon his loyalty to any cause he might ensue. Political complications, intrigues, and unscrupulous plans of emergency made this chivalrous soldier a scape-goat. I watched, with the greatest solicitude, his adventurous career to his close, and had hoped to see his vindication and restoration in the U.S. Army. Posthumous reparation would be bitter mockery, yet not the less incumbent upon the living to make it.

On the 30th day of October after Ball's Bluff, I was on the road to the Old Capital, under a guard consisting of a mounted lieutenant, a Sergeant and three privates. Two of the guard were seated behind me and two in front. The lieutenant, endowed with a lively imagination, indulged his inborn propensity by telling the most incredulous stories of what he had seen in that morning's papers of Confederate disasters.

Had he know that in disturbing me with his yarns he was interrupting profound meditations he would have desisted. I was considering the possibility of leaving this gay and festive lieutenant that afternoon. In taking my leave I didn't intend to thank him for the pleasure his garrulity had afforded me, nor to give small silver to the driver nor to make any of the little speeches customary upon a departure, but I expected to *bolt* and *run*. From a knowledge of the road and the rate traveled, I knew we would reach the line of the District of Columbia about twilight, which time I thought would be best for an escape. For hours I was deeply absorbed in the contemplation severally: 1st, Of the ordinary feat of placing my foot on the side of the ambulance and leaping to the ground. 2nd, How far the ambulance would go before the horses could be checked? 3rd, How long it would take the guard to turn, if they had to do so, and what the effectiveness of the fire which they wouldn't hesitate to deliver? 4th, Could I outrun them?

Concerning the last proposition I felt a degree of complacency that erased it as an item.

We were now approaching the District Line. Twilight and the crisis had come. I was ready for the dash, my nerves braced to desperate chances. The ambulance stopped; the guard dismounted; the curtains were fastened down. Subdued, I leaned back and rested;—the lieutenant's precaution had prevented a tragedy.

Familiar streets and buildings were passed until we reached the Provost Marshall's, Major Sykes. After a receipt had been given for J. Owens Berry, rank 1st Lieutenant, age 24, height 5 ft. 7 in., complexion florid, etc., etc., the guard was relieved, and the Provost assumed charge of me. When the formalities of the transfer were over, I found I was in a congenial atmosphere. I should have forgotten the considerate kindness of Major Sykes and assistants were it not for a question then propounded to me:—"What, Sir, is the animus of the Southern masses in the contest? Do they expect to better protect the institution of slavery?" I shall spare the indulgent readers of the Herald my answer to these grave questions, which answer I clearly stated to the propounder was solely from my own point of view. After these gentlemen had sufficiently catered to their desire for information and social chat they became aware that it was late in the night, and reflecting that whilst entertaining me I was entertaining an aching void, the captain of a guard was instructed to give me a supper at a restaurant.

Entering the doors of the Old Capitol about midnight, I found a quiet household—the sentinels distributed through the building keeping watch over Col. Wood's slumbering family. I was assigned a cot and at once felt a sense of proprietorship.

In the morning I was again on exhibition—this time before a Confederate audience. The advantage was not now all on one side, whilst they looked with curious eyes upon me, I regarded them as a first-class menagerie. The old Capitol up to that time had been the depot to which most of the captured soldiers and arrested citizens had been sent. There was another prison in Washington having a limited number of citizens, and some were confined in the common jail. In the assemblage Fairfax was fairly represented: Mr. Chas. Landstreet, of Mt. Vernon; Mr. Gus Williams and others. The 8th regiment was represented by Sergeant-Major Grayson. There had been no exchange of prisoners and on this score there was a prevailing despondency. I gave my new-found friends the Trans-Potomac news current previous to the time of my capture, and confirmed them in the belief of our great victory. For all that I could tell they reciprocated largely by relating personal experiences, varied and often amusing. A smile is provoked now at the story of the Lieutenant, who, when on picket, was surprised up in an apple tree, and invited to come down. These were the white days for prisoners in the old Capitol. Mr. Gus Williams had demoralized the Superintendent and imperiously ordered him about.

Though the population was restricted as to limits, it was a miniature of the outside great world. Syndicates were formed for the control of certain

rooms; and use of certain windows and other exclusive privileges. The second story corner room, commanding the best view of the attractions of the street, was restricted to the use of the "ring". Patriotic effervescence sought egress in every direction—not always youthful, blatant ardor, Col. George West Minor, an old citizen of Fairfax, who had reached his four score years, would totter on his cane up to the window and upon sight of a Federal Cavalryman would declare, with expletives, that he could whip a squadron of them himself.

When I stepped into the yard (a small enclosure) of the Old Capitol the morning after my arrival, I took a survey of the buildings and the walls, partly on two sides. Sergt.-Major Grayson made himself known. I asked him if he thought it possible for anyone to make his escape. He informed me that a prisoner, Mr. Burke, had been investigating, with a view to escape, and that he could post me. He introduced me to Burke, with whom I discussed the subject, receiving poor encouragement. Another day I asked Burke if by surreptitiously entering a certain building a passage could not be made through its wall. He said that he had made an examination and the character of the masonry made it impenetrable—that the only chance for escape was by bribing a sentinel, but that a dearth of money prevented recourse to that. I asked him the figure; he thought \$50 would do.

I found I could procure that sum, but bribing was not attempted. I began to feel like an adolescent rat in a trap.

On the 7th of October, after watching, I discovered that the sentinel pacing a certain beat was for a few moments shut off from a view of the wall which it was designed he should observe, by a small intervening building. I at once communicated my observations to Burke, (as it had been understood that it was a partnership affair), and explained how that by going with two strong, tall men behind the intervening building and when the sentinel passed a certain point and before his return, that by running to the wall (18' high), standing with my limbs rigid, arms elevated and extended, then by running with me, grasping my ankles and raising me up, could place me so that I could scramble up and swing over to the outside; the men returning quickly to the shelter of the building. Burke thought it could not be done. Two soldiers, Messrs. Haycock, of Fairfax, and Loflin, of Alabama, when made fully acquainted with the plan, agreed to second any effort I might make. The next afternoon I took Burke behind the intervening building to demonstrate the practicability of my plan. When the sentinel passed the point, to measure the time, I counted one, two, three, etc. Burke was convinced, and admitted it. I said: "We are ready, let us go." He replied that the sentinel had seen

us go by the building once and if we went by again his suspicions would be aroused, and he would interfere. His reasoning was good, and I succumbed. A few minutes after the sentinel was relieved, and another took his place, I found Burke, told him the sentinel had been changed, and asked him if he was ready. He said that he was. We tossed up a coin, heads or tails, which should go over the wall first. The coin said Burke, who insisted that I should go first. I hastily found my men. The four of us sauntered by the sentinel and took position behind the building. When the sentinel passed the point I ran to the wall, and in the few seconds of time was sturdily elevated above it and swinging on my hands, dropped to the ground outside. Burke was to follow at the next turn of the sentinel. I went to the rendezvous agreed upon and waited half an hour. Burke not coming, I was somewhat perplexed. He was to have been the guide of the fugitive expedition through Maryland, and ultimately to Shepherdstown. Thrown upon my own resources, I started in the direction of Baltimore.

Soaked to the skin, more by an aquatic feat than by the drizzling rain, I went into camp at the foot of a large tree beyond Bladensburg, about 10 o'clock on that Tuesday night, the 8th of November. Taking scissors, razor and soap from my pocket, I removed, by the sense of touch, my beard and mustache. Then with my back to the tree, chin on my knees, arms folded, and hands under my wet coat, I cheerfully resigned myself to await the daylight.

Daylight was ushered in by a phenomenal rain—the drops forming vertical lines of water. Seeking the hospitalities of a farm house, I entered into conversation with the host on current topics. He said that at an election held a few days previous (which was a test of how Maryland stood upon the question of secession), he had voted on the Union side; that Maryland was bound hand and foot, etc. He seemed to be apologizing to himself for the vote he had given. He was not the only Marylander coerced. The next day I met a re-united Union regiment that had been scattered about at the election precincts to preserve the purity of the ballot. I crossed the Patuxent river below Queen Anne, and arrived, after dark, at a ferry lower down, opposite Nottingham. Hallooing to the ferryman, he soon responded. A dim object appeared in the darkness on the water, and stopped a short distance from where I stood on the shore. The following brief dialogue was held;—Ferryman: "Who is you, Boss?" Traveller: "Well, perhaps we are not acquainted, but I wish to cross over." Ferryman: "You pays fust, Boss; I'se been fooled by so many pussons." After a moment's reflection, I took in the situation. The soldiers, sad dogs that they were, were already changing the customs of

the country. Giving the cautious ferryman a small gold piece, to secure his fare, I was landed in the village of Nottingham. Saturday, late in the afternoon, I reached Newport. The New York Herald had charged me with a diet of cold duck and champagne. Alas! how deceitful are appearances. It was at this place that an intimate acquaintance with those delicacies began and ended. The profuse hospitality of lower Maryland can't be discounted. After a weeks stay near Newport, I crossed the Potomac, landing in Westmoreland County, 6 miles from Leedstown, on the Rappahannock. From Leedstown by steamboat and railroad, to Manassas. Gen. Hunton (then Colonel) recovered his one lost lamb at Centreville with a regimental hug—I suppose you'd call it). A few days after, I was most cordially welcomed by members of Company G, and by that Roman soldier, our company commander, Capt. James Thrift.

Burke, whom I had left in Old Capitol Yard, ready to follow me, I met afterwards. He was returning with Gen. Jeb Stuart from a scout below Fairfax C.H. He said that he followed me over the wall, but in dropping to the ground sprained his ankle, and had to remain some time where he fell. That he was secreted near until able to travel. He was a brave and dashing cavalryman. Surrounded in the streets of Shepherdstown after the Sharpsburg battle, he refused to surrender and was killed.

A HISTORY OF NEW ALEXANDRIA [VA.] BEFORE THE AUTOMOBILE

by

PAUL RISLEY and CONSTANCE DAHLIN*
Groveton High School

*Ms. Dahlin and Mr. Risley won first prize in the Historical Society's 1977-78 High School essay contest. We are pleased to present the essay in our yearbook.

In the end of the 19th century, a town in the Mt. Vernon area was conceived by several businessmen. Termed a "dream community", it was to be a suburb of Washington, D.C., and have residential sections, industries and businesses. Situated in a fair, yet cheap location, they believed it would become a "Mecca for every American citizen."

Unfortunately for the businessmen, this "dream community" never came true. Due to a combination of many problems, New Alexandria failed in becoming a "model town".

Planned to be dependent on the streetcar as its predominant mode of transportation, New Alexandria was developed when the automobile was invented, thus sealing its fate. Financial as well as fewer buyers and investors interested in the town than expected, also contributed to its failure.

The history of it, from beginning to end, was in some ways, representative of the social and economic trends changing America at the time; New Alexandria is a perfect microcosm of America at the turn of the century.

In 1888, a group of businessmen, with apparent high aspirations, incorporated, forming the "New Alexandria Land and River Improvement Company". The group included Philadelphia and local Alexandria business. The officers for the company were: President, Dr. G.E. Abbot, Bryn Mawr, Pa; Vice-President, Park Agnew, Alexandria, Va; Treasurer, M.B. Harlow, Alexandria; Secretary, G. Noble, Philadelphia, and General Manager, L.W. Spear, Duluth, Minnesota.²

The company was organized with a capital of \$1,000,000, much of this put up by a Pennsylvania bank, and by 1892, the company had bought 1,600 acres from the estates of local farmers, Johnston and O'Neal³ The property, several miles south of Alexandria and bordering Great Hunting Creek, included three miles of Potomac River frontage.

The business planned to turn the 1,600 acres into a town to be called New Alexandria, complete with a streetcar line connecting the town with Washington and Alexandria, factories and hotels. This would be a model community, that would surely succeed, the backers believed.

In 1890, when the company was planned the development, they believed it would grow and prosper quickly. New Alexandria would be built in the "accessible and fertile"⁴ Mt. Vernon area, with a streetcar line as its axis. Inhabitants of the new town would be able to commute the ten miles into Washington in less than half an hour, which in 1890, was unheard of.⁵ Other inhabitants could find work with one of the many industries that would certainly locate on this choice land. The river and railroad would provide inexpensive and reliable transportation for the industries to the large markets in Alexandria and Washington. In advertising the new town, the company stated that the area had the "purest water, the healthiest air, and the most beautiful and convenient location in the Washington area."⁶

The introduction of Pennsylvania capital seemed a possible solution to the building slowdown caused by an economic depression in the area. One builder said at the time, "I would at once put up a hundred houses if I had the capital."⁷

Thus, the new corporation was welcomed by the Alexandria business community.

Soon after the incorporation of their company, the businessmen formed a railroad company, realising that the completion of the proposed streetcar line would spur the building of the town. In 1890, the "Alexandria and Mt. Vernon Railroad" was chartered, and in 1892, the name was changed to the "Washington, Alexandria and Mt. Vernon Railroad." The line was chartered to "build and maintain a railroad by animal, horse, cable or electric power through Alexandria and for a distance of ten miles into Fairfax County."⁸

However, this was not the first railroad proposed for this area. In 1866, the Army Corps of Engineers was interested in building a railroad from Alexandria to Mt. Vernon for defense purposes. But when Washington's defenses were re-assessed in 1868, these plans were discarded.⁹ In the 1880's and 90's many Northern Virginia railroad companies included clauses in their charters for possible expansion into the Mt.

Vernon area. While many streetcar lines were proposed for the area, only the owners of the New Alexandria Company succeeded in building one.

On April 1, 1892, the newly formed Railroad Company's Board of Directors met in Philadelphia (where the New Alexandria Co. also held meetings), to announce the planned route.

Work began as scheduled, on June 15, 1892 with Philadelphia F.A. Reed as superintendent. Several problems were encountered, notably when the mostly black laborers attempted to strike for \$25 more than their \$1.25 daily wage. The contractors, upon direction of Reed, immediately fired them, hiring more than a hundred Italian and Hungarian immigrants brought down from New Jersey that day. It was questionable as to whether "anarchists or just bad weather" had caused the blacks to strike.¹⁰ Another problem occurred when a contractor did not fill out the correct work permit for the City of Alexandria. Despite these delays, work continued quickly, and trains were in operation only three days after the September completion date.

With speeds of up to 30 miles per hour claimed, the Washington, Alexandria and Mt. Vernon was one of the fastest and most advanced streetcar lines in the nation. Starting at the corner of 12th and Pennsylvania Ave. in D.C., and ending in a large circle in front of Mt. Vernon, the single track line crossed Hunting Creek, north of New Alexandria, on a 3,500 foot bridge with a concrete and steel center span and trestle. At New Alexandria, a powerhouse for the streetcars and a spur line were constructed. The spur line was built to provide additional incentive for industry to locate in the new town.¹¹ On September 20, 1892, the first passenger carrying streetcar ran, and the growth of New Alexandria seemed imminent.

In 1892, with the electric railway planned and started, New Alexandria was founded. To begin selling lots to the public, in May, the New Alexandria Company sold some 500 acres of the original 1,600 to the newly formed "Land and River Improvement Company", with the intention of selling them as individual, one-acre lots. Another 200 acres were set aside for industry.¹²

The men planned the town carefully, setting aside 800 acres for parkland and future development. With the exception of the industries, lots sold were kept to a maximum of five acres. Eventually, three streets of stone and four city blocks were laid out.¹³

In June, the first industry came to New Alexandria. The Deis Manufacturing Company, with several furniture and machine tool factories in Ohio, was looking for a location in Maryland or Virginia for a new factory. The New Alexandria Company had notified the Deis Com-

pany (along with other industries) of the land sale and had offered them very favorable terms. Eventually, Philip Deis, the owner, set up a factory in New Alexandria, worth \$140,000, of which \$50,000 was financed by the New Alexandria Company.

The factory was completed in late September, 1892, just after the streetcar line. Built just east of the new town, on the rail spur, it was a three story structure, 288 feet long and 68 feet wide. 600,000 bricks were used to make one wing, though the primary construction materials was wood.¹⁴

Employing 84 workers by December, it produced 150 chairs a day. There was a special section that produced an "especially fine rocker".¹⁵

There was other industry as well. In May, the New Alexandria Company sold large lots to the Alexandria Woodenware Company, Brick Company and the Benham Filter Company. However, only the Woodenware Company ever built in the town. They built a two story wooden structure, 150 feet by 75 feet. With a capital of \$50,000 and employing 30 workers, they manufactured baskets. This company too, was partially controlled by the New Alexandria Company.¹⁶

Apparently, these were the only industries to ever locate in New Alexandria.

There was also a hotel, built supposedly for the tourists visiting Mt. Vernon by streetcar. The Mt. Vernon Hotel, a two story structure with 62 rooms, boasted of "mineral water with medicinal properties." The owner, H.S. Benson, was formerly with the National Hotel of Washington.¹⁷

About twelve houses, almost identical, were built on Potomac street, although thirty were originally planned for, according to Spear, then company secretary.¹⁸ Built in part by the Railroad Company, they housed many of the streetcar employees and their families. A Post Office which lasted for several years and a grocery were across the street from the hotel.¹⁹

Apparently, aside from several smaller cottages built later, there were no other houses built in New Alexandria while the New Alexandria Company was in control. While the new town received favorable publicity through many articles in influential business magazines, there was not a rush to buy or invest in New Alexandria, as the backers and financiers had hoped for. Yet, with two industries now located in the town, and others expressing interest, they did not give up hope.

On Thursday night, December 15, 1892, barely three months after completion, the Deis Company factory burned, "presumably the work of an incendiary."²⁰ Starting in a central storeroom, the fire consumed all

of the wooden structure, except for the small wing protected by a brick wall. The flames were so high that they were seen in Alexandria, where firemen and officials of the New Alexandria Company crowded on to the few streetcars running that late at night. The flames, however, were uncontrollable, and by morning, the factory was terms a "major loss".²¹

It was a \$75,000 loss, of which less than \$30,000 was insured. At least \$25,000 were lost by the New Alexandria Company in the fire.

Within three months the Deis Company had rebuilt the factory, to the same specifications, and in brick. However, due to the immense financial loss of the fire, transportation problems, and a shrinking market, the Deis Company closed its New Alexandria factory in 1898.²² It is interesting to note that in 1891, officials of the New Alexandria Company along with other prominent area businessmen set up the "Mt. Vernon Fire Insurance Company".²³ It is not known if the Deis Company was insured by this company.

New Alexandria never grew anymore than what we have so far described until the 1930's, and that was a different community. After 1894, New Alexandria only went downhill. After both factories were closed down, the hotel closed and all were torn down and sold for scrap lumber. The streetcar powerhouse burned around 1912, contributing to the end of the streetcar line, which declared bankruptcy by 1927.²⁴

In 1924, the New Alexandria Company declared bankruptcy, and held an auction in which they sold all the acreage that had not been sold over the last thirty years. For an unknown reason, William Jennings Bryant, the famous orator, was the auctioneer. About half of the original 1,600 acres were sold to four men, who later succeed in building the Belle Haven Country Club and community on them.²⁵

The reasons for the failure of New Alexandria as a thriving and successful community, as the backers had hoped for, were many. An unlucky combination of social and mainly, economic problems beset and eventually destroyed the dream of four businessmen.

In 1892, fire destroyed the Deis factory, and though it was rebuilt, the financial loss, combined with transportation problems and a shrinking market forced the Deis Co. out of New Alexandria by 1898. New Alexandria suffered greatly from the loss of its largest employer.

The streetcar line, built mainly for passenger traffic, had only two freight cars with which to transport all the manufactured goods produced in New Alexandria. A deep water channel, dredged to New Alexandria in 1895, silted up within five years, discouraging further industry.²⁶

The introduction of Pennsylvania capital into the Alexandria building market did not create the buying "rush" that the backers had hoped for.

The Alexandria area was in a sluggish depression at the time, not recovering until much later, after New Alexandria.

During World War I, the U.S. government forced the streetcar company to build a track-extension from the Mt. Vernon turnaround to Ft. Humphries (Ft. Belvoir) with only partial compensation. The construction put the company into deep debt, forcing it to cut back on most of its services. At the same time, several bus companies were competing with the company, and worse, Congress had agreed to the construction of a "George Washington Memorial Parkway," certain to travel the same route as the carline. In 1926, the government tore down the streetcar's Washington stop, to build what is now known as "Government Triangle". This was the end, with the company declaring bankruptcy in 1928, and selling the passenger rights to a bus company.²⁷

In 1932, the Parkway was completed, passing through New Alexandria where the streetcar had run. A totally new community grew there; one that is dependent on the automobile for transportation, and with virtually no industries or stores, except for a gas station.

However, even today, there is evidence of the first New Alexandria. Four of the original railroad company houses still stand, though they are in danger of being torn down, as of May, 1978. The grid street layout, planned by the New Alexandria Company, still exists, though it appears that the roads have not been improved on since then. The area remains one of the poorer residential sections of the Mt. Vernon area. Sections of streetcar track as well as the site of the Mt. Vernon Hotel can be found on the grounds of the Belle Haven Country Club, which formed after the 1924 auction of New Alexandria. The sites of the factories and the powerhouse are now either buried under the Parkway or are on government property.

Thus, the community of New Alexandria, as conceived by the backers and financiers of the New Alexandria Land and River Improvement Company did not last longer than thirty years, if that long. It is hard to call it a town, as it never had more than a hundred inhabitants, and even harder to call it the "dream community" that the business had hoped for.

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1. Guy Underwood, *A Story of a New Town*, Wash. D.C., Wilson, 1893, page 3.
2. *Ibid.*, p. 8.
3. Edith Sprouse, *The Hollin Hills Bulletin*, Nov. 1964, page 1.

4. Underwood, page 8.
5. Sprouse, page 3.
6. Underwood, page 27.
7. *Manufacturer's Record*, April 15, 1892, page 38.
8. *Acts and Joint Resolutions Passed by the General Assembly of the State of Virginia*. 1888-1889, pg. 583.
9. Mayme Parker, *The Alexandria Gazette*, Feb. 22, 1955, page 10.
10. *Alexandria Gazette*, August 6, 1892, page 3.
11. Philip Bagdon, *Echoes in History*, Jan. 1971, page 31.
12. Country Deeds of Land and Property, Fairfax County Courthouse. (circa 1892)
13. Interview with Charles Muck, resident of new Alexandria, 1:00 PM, May 20, 1977, Groveton High School.
14. *The Alexandria Gazette*, Dec. 16, 1892, page 3.
15. "Recollections of Pat Arnold," Groveton High School English Dept. 1976, unpublished manuscript.
16. Underwood, page 18.
17. Underwood, page 22.
18. "Open letter to the Gazette," by G. Videtto, *Alexandria Gazette*, June 14, 1892.
19. Post Office Records, Virginiana Room, Fairfax County Central Library.
20. Underwood, page 18.
21. *Alexandria Gazette*, Dec. 16, 1892, page 3.
22. Underwood, page 18.
23. *Acts and Joint Resolutions*, 1889-1890.
24. Mayme Parker, page 10.
25. *Ibid*, page 10.
26. *Ibid*, page 10.
27. Philip Bagdon, page 32.

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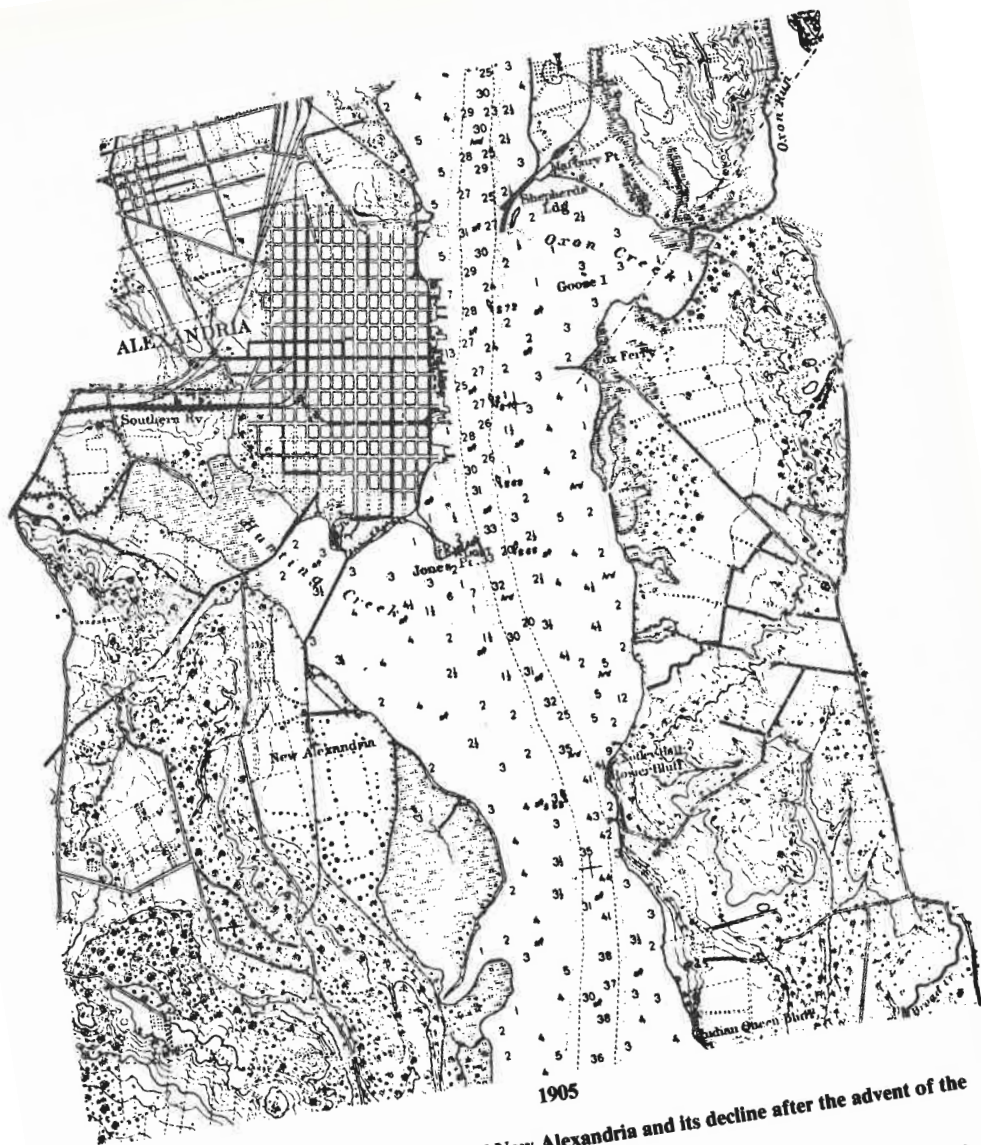
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Muck, Charales, interviewed by Paul Risley, New Alexandria, Va., March, 1978.

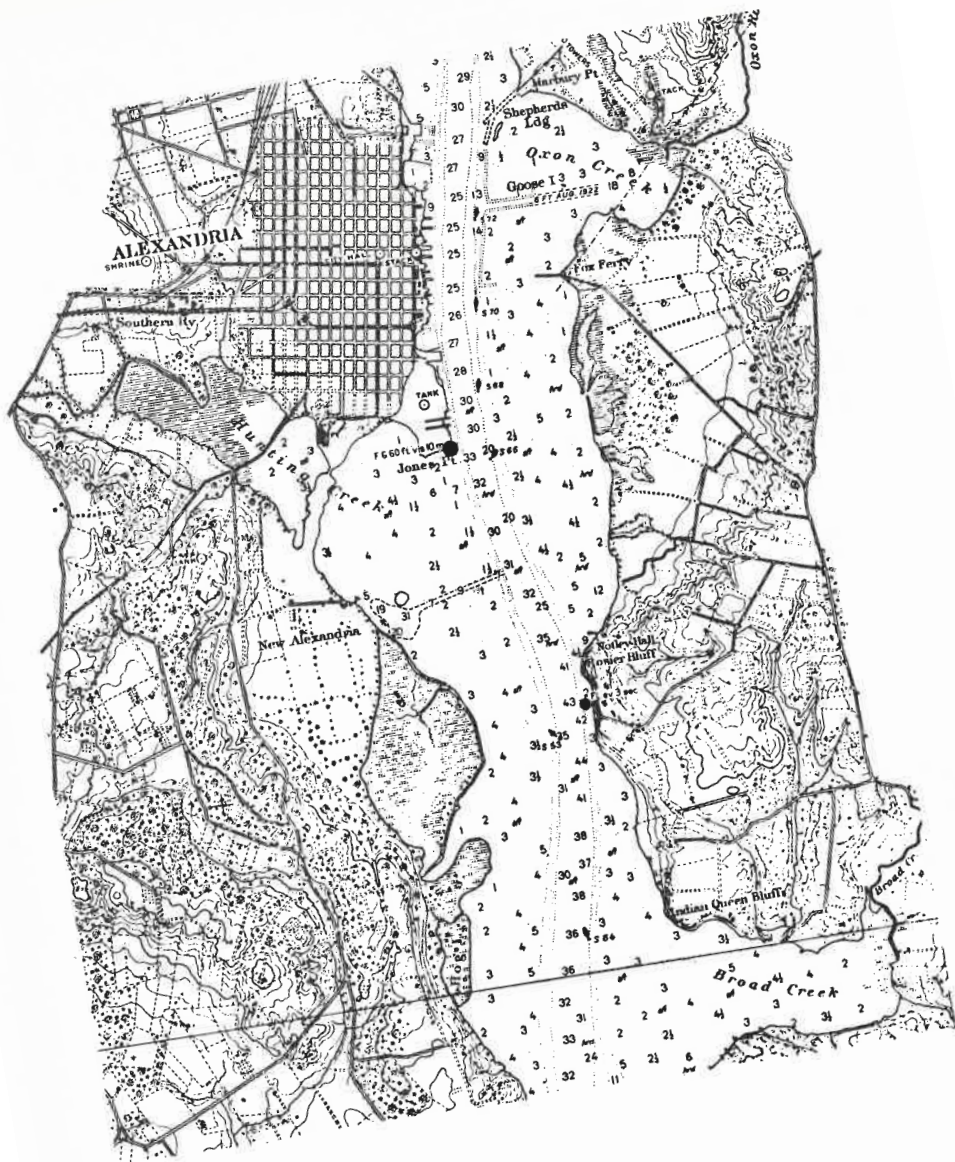
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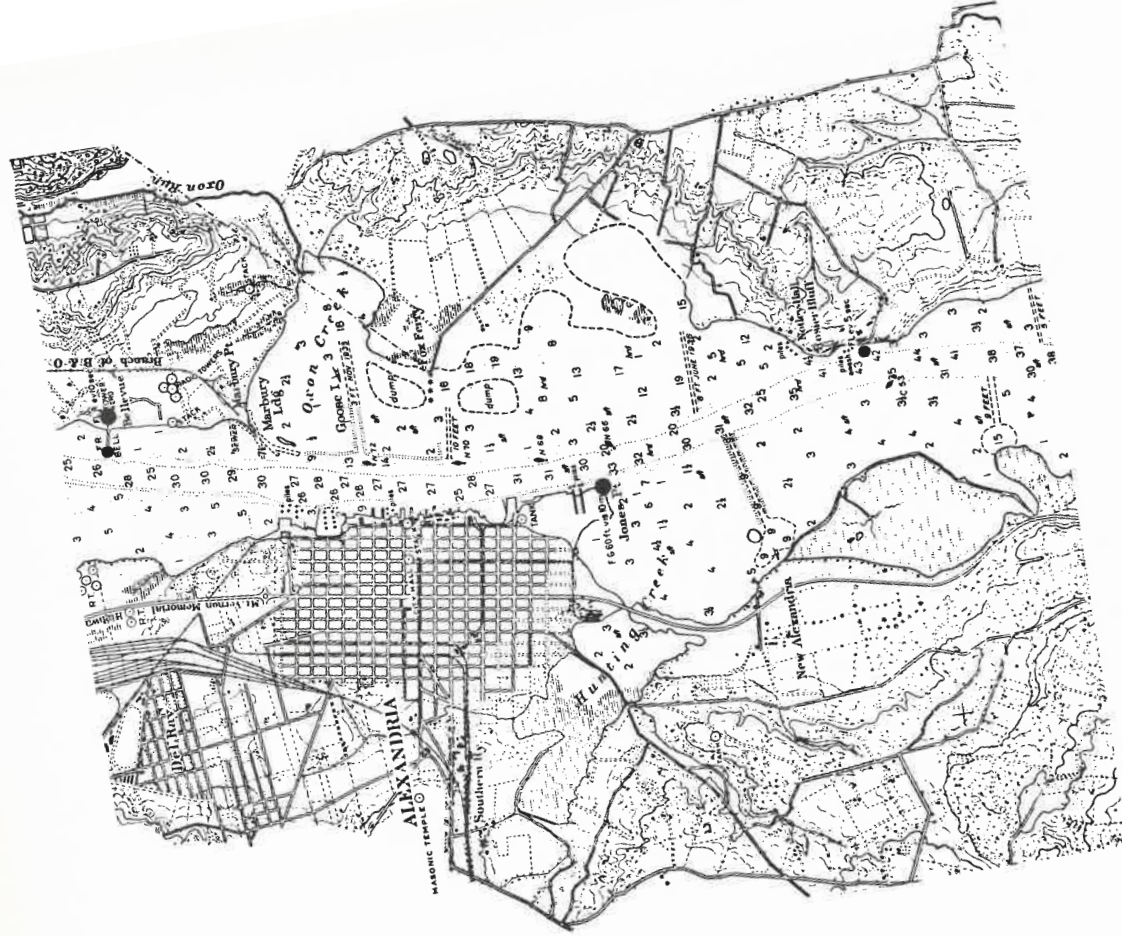


These maps trace the development of New Alexandria and its decline after the advent of the automobile.

Source: Washington and Vicinity. Washington D.C., U.S. Geological Survey, 1900, reprinted 1905. Updated 1930, 1940. Scale 1:31,680. 126 x 127 cm. Southwest quarter of map.



1930



1940

Appendix B



These pictures, taken by Pearl Levenson in March, 1978, show present day New Alexandria and some of the original houses. Note the disrepair and shabby appearances of both houses and roads.



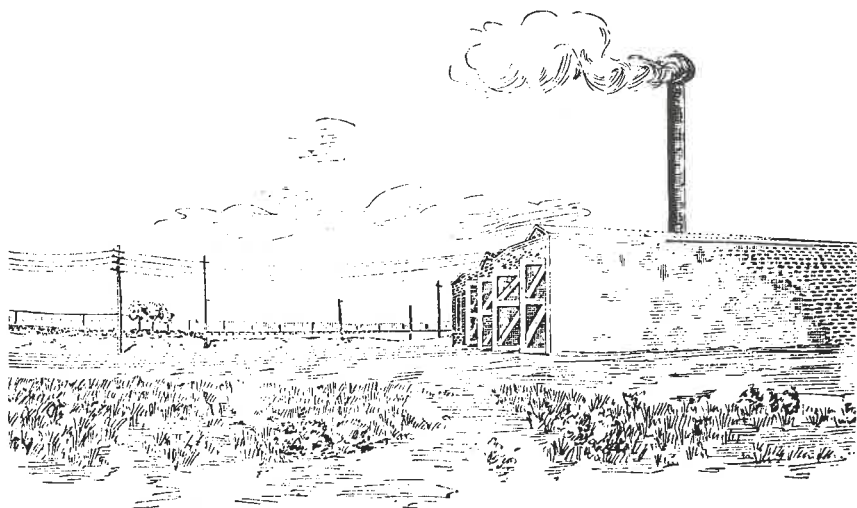


Appendix C

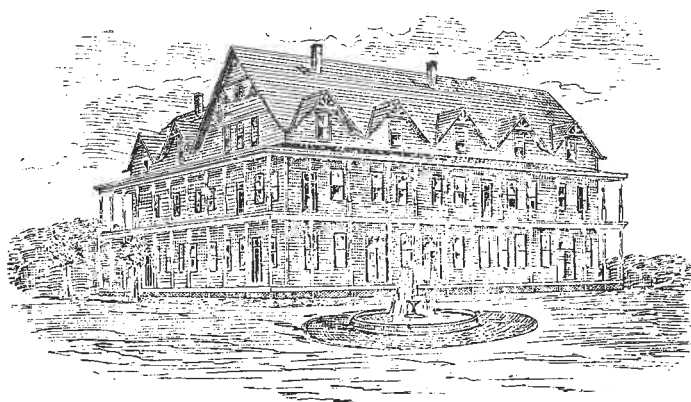


BIRO'S EYE VIEW OF NEW ALEXANDRIA.

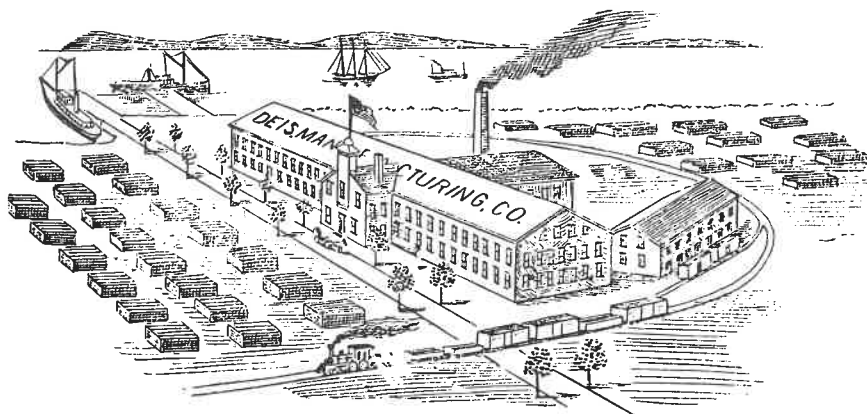
These sketches of New Alexandria accompanied the text of: *A Story of a New Town*, by Guy Underwood. Washington D.C. Wilson, 1893.



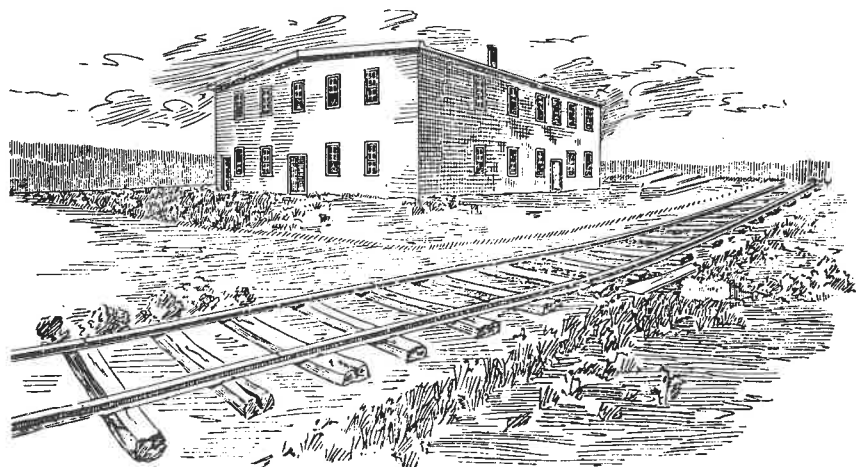
THE POWER HOUSE.



HOTEL MOUNT VERNON.



DEIS MANUFACTURING PLANT.



THE BASKET FACTORY.



Triplett Stone Ft. Belvior, Virginia

**ADDRESS DELIVERED BY
MRS. ELEANOR LEE TEMPLEMAN
AT POHICK EPISCOPAL CHURCH
LORTON, VIRGINIA
MAY 12, 1968**

**ON
LIEUTENANT WILLIAM TRIPLETT,
CLOSE FRIEND OF GEORGE WASHINGTON***

*Written by William E. and Mary Anne Triplett and here published with several minor revisions. The so-called "Triplett Tattoo", to which all members of this society were invited, was divided into three parts: 1. Pohick Church—Memorial Service for William Triplett, Vestryman and pew owner of Pohick, "Welcome" by Wm. E. Triplett; and Mrs. Templeman's address; 2. "Round Hill" Graveyard (Telegraph Road and now surrounded by Fort Belvoir)—Marking of Lt. William Triplett's grave by the Mount Vernon Chapter of the D.A.R., Music and Drums (draped in black) by the Mt. Vernon Guard, and Rifle Salute and "Echo Taps" by Fort Belvoir; and 3. Pohick Church Parish Hall—Reception following drilling maneuvering, and of Revolutionary War skit by the Mt. Vernon Guard on the church green.

[Comments and corrections in the text suggested by Triplett Russell of Miami, Fla.]

Lieutenant William Triplett of "Round Hill Plantation", Fairfax County, *is* a footnote to history, but, I think he is an interesting footnote. Although he sometimes appears in the text of local histories, as distinct from footnotes, both are largely due to the fact that he just happened to be a close friend, neighbor, and fellow churchman of George Washington.

Lieutenant Triplett appears on the stage of world history only once, and this unwittingly and by accident. If you will bear with me, I shall explain how and why.—General Washington may have gotten up on the wrong side of the bed on the morning of March 28th, 1781 when William

Triplett became involved, but Washington had just cause to be depressed. It was a dark hour. A financial crisis had come to a head—there was no money to provide food, clothing, or pay for the army. The men were in destitute condition. Fierce mutinies broke out. A chief source of American supplies in the West Indies had been captured by the British. “These people are at the end of their resources” wrote Rochambeau, the top French General in America in March 1781. Congress spoke with a halting voice. There were disasters in the South: Charleston had fallen; Benedict Arnold—the traitor—was invading Virginia; and LaFayette was dispatched to Virginia with part of Washington’s own army to contain Arnold. As long as the British controlled the sea, Washington could not prevent Cornwallis joining Arnold in Virginia. When a sudden hurricane crippled the British squadron in Long Island Sound, Washington quickly proposed to Rochambeau that the French fleet move from Newport, Rhode Island to the Chesapeake Bay to support LaFayette. Washington was in command of the French *Army* in North America, but had no control over the French *Navy*. After some delay, the French sent a *small* naval force—too little and too late.

This caused Washington to write, on that morning of March 28th, 1781, one of his few imprudent letters, which he later bitterly regretted. It was to his cousin, Lund Washington, estate manager at Mount Vernon. He wrote, and I quote:

This I mention in confidence, that the French fleet and detachment did not undertake the enterprize they are now upon when I first proposed it to them. The destruction of Arnold’s corps would have been inevitable before the British fleet could have been in a condition to put to sea. Instead of this the small squadron . . . could not, as I foretold, do anything.

The letter was sent by ordinary mail inasmuch as Congress could not afford express riders for *any* of Washington’s correspondence, not even with the French or for his orders to his command.

The British captured the letter, and General Sir Henry Clinton happily published it, hoping to split the French and American alliance. The French reportably were furious at Washington’s criticism. Washington penned an apology, and, I quote, in part:

I assure your Excellency that I feel extreme pain at the . . . intercepted letter of mine published by the enemy. I am unhappy that an accident should have put it in . . . (British) power to give to the world anything from me which may contain an implication the least disagreeable to (the French).

William Triplett was involved in this diplomatic incident because the *first paragraph* of the captured letter was about him. The homely details concerning him helped make the authenticity of the letter unquestionable. I quote, in part:

Headquarters, New Windsor, N.Y.
March 28, 1781

Dear Lund:

. . . If Mr. Triplett has got as much land as he has given, and you have paid him the cash difference with a proper allowance for the depreciation since the bargain was made, *I am at a loss to discover the ground of his complaint*; and if men will complain without cause, it is a matter of no great moment. It always was, and now is my wish to do him justice, and if there is anything lacking in it, delay not to give him full measure of justice, because I had rather exceed, than fall short.

This concerned a swap of land between Washington and Triplett which had been discussed often but never consummated. Obviously William Triplett felt he had been taken advantage of, though he could not put his finger on the cause of his complaint. Obviously, Washington was annoyed that his old friend felt this way. They had been acquainted since Washington moved to his brother's home at Mt. Vernon. It is doubtful, although possible, that they knew each other as children.

William Triplett was born in 1730, probably in present Fairfax county. His mother, Sarah Harrison, was the daughter of one of the first settlers of the area, who, with three other men, received a patent of 4,639 acres in 1706 from Lady Culpeper. William's father, Thomas Triplett, was from near "Wakefield", the original Washington home. Thomas Triplett's family held considerable land there—the original grant from the Royal Governor, Sir William Berkeley, in 1666, was for 1,050 acres. However, along with the Washingtons, Thomas sought unexhausted new land, here on the frontier.

He and Sarah settled, probably prior to 1731, on part of the Harrison patent adjacent to the future "Mount Vernon" and named it "Round Hill" after a large, naturally-round, hill on which the subsequent Triplett houses were built. William was only seven when his father died in 1737. His father was the first to be buried in the graveyard where we are going this afternoon. The next year, his mother married John Manley. William and his brother, Thomas, left "Round Hill" and grew up in the Manley household. The two brothers were always close to their half-brothers and half-sisters. Harrison Manley, who bought the pew I was just sitting in,

called William and Thomas Triplett "my brothers" in his will and made them executors of his estate.

Penelope Manley married Daniel French of "Rose Hill", the contractor who built this church, and, after he died, she came to live at "Round Hill" with her half-brother William. Sarah Manley married Colonel Charles Little of "Cleesh": he was a pallbearer in General Washington's funeral; and a man who played a conspicuous part in Triplett family and legal affairs.

William's stepfather died in 1750, but the next year, when William became twenty-one, he inherited "Round Hill".

Let's look at the situation then. English-speaking North America was then only a thin strip along the eastern seaboard. The population was about 1,300,000. Not far west of here, on the other side of the mountains, lay land controlled by the French and thousands of their Indian allies.

We have no record of William serving in the French and Indian War, but his younger brother, Thomas, served with Washington. Thomas Triplett and Washington were the same age, and they developed a friendship, the depth of which may be estimated by the fact that Washington—a very formal person—called him "Tom". He may have been the only one of Washington's contemporaries whom Washington called by a nickname.

William married about 1762, Sarah Peake, daughter of William Peake, owner of "Gum Springs" and "Bradley". Peake was an early member of the Vestry of this church, and at his death, Washington replaced him. Thomas married Sarah Dade, half-sister of the Reverend Lee Massey, who is buried under the pulpit behind me.

The two Triplett brothers, their half-brother Harrison Manley, William's brother-in-law, Humphrey Peake, Bryan Fairfax, and Robert and Philip Alexander hunted with Washington continually, and generally made life miserable for fox and occasional deer in Fairfax County. Entries in Washington's diary show that he and these friends spent considerable time in the saddle—not only does he record hunting every few days, but some days they spent five hours on the "Chace". Many of these rides were followed by dinner at Mt. Vernon, and, on occasion, Washington records, "dined at Mr. William Triplett's". Tom Triplett sometimes would remain overnight at Mt. Vernon. Life continued in this manner until May 4, 1775, when Washington left for Philadelphia.

The parts that William and Tom played in the Revolutionary War must be considered in relation to their ages when that war began. William was forty-six, Tom forty-four, both too old to serve proficiently as field

commanders. As friends of the Commander-in-Chief, and apparently zealous for the cause, they did serve and receive commissions. Tom, with some military experience in the French and Indian War, was a Captain. William, with none as far as is known, joined Grayson's Additional Continental Regiment and became a Lieutenant on May 10, 1778. He was Regimental Paymaster for a short time, from January 11, 1779 until he transferred to Gist's Regiment on April 22, 1779. He retired on January 1, 1781. Both brothers retired because of ill health, according to Elswyth Thane in her book, *Potomac Squire*.

I think it is interesting that Thomas escorted Martha Washington to Valley Forge from Mt. Vernon, over frozen roads, in January of 1778. When Thomas resigned, Washington took time out to write him a letter from Valley Forge in June. Thomas died two years later.

After the Revolutions, Washington and William were again on friendly terms despite their 1781 disagreement over land. The deeds for the land swap were finally exchanged in May, 1785. Washington came to "Round Hill" for dinner.

When William's mother, Sarah Harrison Triplett Manley, died in October, 1785, Washington and Houdon, who was in the process of making his famous bust, attended the funeral at the graveyard where we will be going shortly.

Following the death of Mrs. Manley, land again became a bone of contention between William Triplett and Washington, for Washington wanted to acquire the Manley land. William, as executor of his mother's and Harrison Manley's estates, was willing to sell their part of the Manley land, but his half-sister, Penelope Manley French was undecided; then she agreed to rent to Washington. There was considerable confusion over proposed terms of the lease, and once again Washington was incensed over such a misunderstanding. He wrote a blistering letter to William on September 25, 1786, part of which I quote:

In a word, I am so conscious of the rectitude of my intentions in the whole of this business that it is a matter of the most perfect indifference to me, to whom it is left; and tho' it may be supposed I have some sinister views in saying it, yet without the gift of prophecy, I will venture to pronounce, that if Mrs. French misses me as a Tenant, she will repent . . . for having done so.

And elsewhere in the same letter, Washington writes this remarkable sentence: "I do not recollect that in the course of my life I ever forfeited my word, or broke a promise made to any one."

Apparently their friendship survived, for Washington later noted in his

Diary in April 1787 that William had again been a dinner guest.

At any rate, when Washington died, Mrs. Washington had fourteen invitations sent to attend the funeral, and one went to William Triplett and his family.

William Triplett, himself, died in January 1803. He had made his will shortly before, on December 3, 1802. He wrote that he was at present sick and weak in body but of sound and perfect mind, memory and understanding. His wife was dead, and he left everything to his children with the "sincere wish and desire that my children . . . do meet together with that love and affection which brothers and sisters ought to do, and endeavor to make an amiable provision of the Estate hereby given them . . . but if that cannot be done, I desire that my executors may advertise and sell the whole of my estate."

Another Penelope, Penelope Triplett Jameson, undoubtedly named for her Aunt, disagreed over the proceedings, and the whole of William's estate went up for auction. Unfortunately for the Triplett, but fortunately for the record, we thus have a complete list of everything William owned, how much it sold for, and who bought it, down to the last goose, and twenty-two Windsor chairs.

Much was bought back at the public auction by sons George, William Junior, and Thomas, and by daughter Lucy Triplett Brooke's husband, Walter. I think we should mention, as young Bushrod Corbin Washington the 7th is present today, that Bushrod Washington bought 8 hogs and 10 sheep. William's favorite son, George, who had managed "Round Hill" in recent years, bought back the plantation.

The original house probably was of logs. However, at the reception, look at the beautiful conjectural drawing of the "Round Hill" built by William, probably beginning around 1751. The drawing is by the Miami architect, Thomas Triplett Russell, from exact dimensions discovered recently by Mrs. James M. Sprouse in an old edition of *The Alexandria Gazette*.

Also on display will be many of the books and copies of documents used as source material for this occasion, including the old "Round Hill" ledger. From it we learn that William's funeral charges were \$45.02 in uninflated dollars. Dr. Dick, who cut the cord on the clock at Washington's death, charged the Triplett estate \$93.00 for attending William during his final illness.

Colonial "Round Hill" burned to the ground in 1837. A new, early Victorian house immediately replaced it. "Round Hill" was sold out of the family in 1917. All that the Triplett own, of William's estate of over 1,000 acres, is the graveyard, where we shall now go.

ST. TIMOTHY'S CHAPEL

BY

THELMA REGINA MILLER

St. Timothy's Chapel, in Centreville, Virginia, is located on Old Centreville Road, about a mile south of the Centreville light, the light being at the junction of State Route 28 and U.S. Routes 29-211.

In front of the Chapel stands a large stone bearing the inscription:

"Dedicated to the memory of our beloved classmate Corp.
Timothy Joseph Daley, U.S.A., killed in service February 26,
1918,

* * *

by the Class of 1917, Holy Cross College, Worcester,
Massachusetts"

The Chapel is an unimpressive structure, nothing in its appearance being reminiscent of the War Between the States or the earlier activity which promised to make Centreville a thriving community.

Actually, however, the site of the Chapel is contiguous to that of Level Green Farm and may have been a part of the farm before the present dividing fence was erected. Here on Level Green Farm is the house, still preserved, and owned and occupied by C. Meade Stull, which was taken over as headquarters by Union and Confederate generals by turns, as one advanced and the other retreated. No history of St. Timothy's Chapel would be complete without introductory reference to its location with respect to the battles of Centreville in the War Between the States and to the history of the Centreville area. Much has been written, and is now being written, about Centreville. Background materials for this account has been limited, for lack of time, to one source: "The Centreville Community—1720 to 1860". This is a literary contribution made by Laurence M. Mitchell to the Yearbook of the Historical Society of Fairfax County, Virginia, Inc. (Vol. 4 - 1955). Mr. Mitchell, of nearby Bull Run Ranch, is the husband of Kathryn M. Mitchell, long a member of St. Timothy's. It was years ago, before a history of the Chapel was contemplated that we read this article and realized it was the result of laborious research.

For one who has not taken the time to review history, Mr. Mitchell's references to the significance of Centreville during the war may be surprising. So also may the incidents related by Sarah (Summers) Clarke in her fascinating story "Carry Me Back to Old Virginny".

Level Green Farm

This tract, adjoining the site of St. Timothy's Chapel, was owned at the time of the War Between the States by the father of Mrs. Clarke, William Thomas Summers. Mr. Stull refers to it as the headquarters of General Beauregard, although, as indicated, it changed hands more than once as the contending generals or officers advanced and retreated. Mrs. Clarke has written 59 pages recounting the poignant experiences of the Summers family while living at Level Green Farm. Her story is an autobiography, presented in simple style. During one episode when her home was occupied by military forces or used in part by them, she recounts: "Soon the wounded were being brought back to the rear. The galleries or porches of our house were turned into a hospital." No euphemism veils the ghastly scene. "Pools of blood", she writes, "began to stain the floor. Many amputated limbs and several soldiers were buried in our private burying ground near our house. I guess they didn't bury them very deep, for years later a skull was plowed up in our garden. War is terrible!"

This bloody ground is 25 feet from the house built on what is now the property of the Bishop of Richmond. In 1960, the dwelling with its approximately 8 acres (contiguous to the original site of St. Timothy's) was sold by the Misses Thelma R. Miller and Katherine M. Miller to the Most Reverend John J. Russell, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, Virginia.

Worthy of note, since it relates to the early occupation of Centreville, is a stone just outside the fence at the southern boundary of the present St. Timothy's site bearing in monograph style the inscription "WN 1739". Historians appear to be certain this stone was inscribed by Willoughby Newton to mark the boundary of land owned by him. Mr. Newton is identified by Laurence Mitchell in "Old Mills in the Centreville Area" as "a member of one of the prominent families of Cople Parish in Westmoreland County." Mr. Newton acquired some 4,000 acres of land "which surrounded, if it did not include, the future site of the town of Centreville."

St. Timothy's Chapel was built in 1924 to fill the need for a place of worship for Catholics in the Centreville area. It is remembered by those settling in this area in the early 1950s that Mass was heard in relative comfort in winter. A wood-burning stove ("King Stove", comments Mrs. Clara Shirley who lived in Centreville before the Chapel was built) threw out more heat than does the floor furnace later installed. The wood never

failed; the gas furnace often does. Mr. William Murtaugh used to bring the wood to the Chapel and lay the fire.

Prior to 1924, there were two churches to serve Catholics in Centreville, St. Mary's at Fairfax Station on the east, and All Saints in Manassas (Prince William County), due south. Catholics who could not travel to St. Mary's or to All Saints had no church in which to hear Mass. Roads were often impassable in winter. The automobile was a luxury. Not all families owned one in 1924. Mrs. Shirley recalls that on the day in 1924 when St. Timothy's Chapel was dedicated she gathered up the candidates for Confirmation and drove them in her Model-T Ford to Manassas. As she remembers the occasion the ceremony took place at All Saints Church, but there are records of Confirmation on that day in St. Elizabeth's Chapel at Bristow, Virginia.

Centreville was so named in former times because of its central location in an area of proposed, or hoped for, activity; so in choosing a place of worship accessibility was doubtless one factor, another possibly being the availability of land offered by the Gheen family. The distance from St. Mary's at Fairfax Station to Centreville is approximately ten miles; from Centreville to All Saints in Manassas, approximately seven miles.

There were living in the Centreville area in 1924 about seven Catholic families. Mrs. Shirley and her family were living in the old McCray house. The families they recall are the Breens, Buckleys, Fergusons, Mulhollands, Murtaughs, and Mohrs. Before St. Timothy's was built, Father O'Connell, Pastor of St. Mary's, heard confessions and celebrated Mass at the home of Mr. Murtaugh, near the site to which the Stuart DeBell homestead was moved from Routes 29-211, in about 1969. Father made the trip to Centreville about once a month on horseback, guiding the horse across Rocky Run and Willow Spring Run, there being no bridges in those days.

Interest in the three graves in St. Timothy's churchyard led to inspection of records at the Fairfax County Courthouse. There, in Will Book 26, Page 393, were recorded the deaths of William Murtaugh and his wife, Elizabeth, the dates being one week apart, William's December 28, 1944, and his wife's January 4, 1945. It is said they had requested that their bodies be interred outside the confessional window of the Chapel, and there they lie, according to information given by the Shirley family, in unmarked graves. *Requiescant in pace!*

The death of David Breen, also buried in the churchyard "near the fence", is reported in the "Fairfax Herald" by news item in the October 10, 1924 issue. His mother remembers the date of his funeral as August, 1924, in the uncompleted Chapel, in which a temporary Altar was

erected. The date is questioned, in view of the lapse of time between it and the date of the obituary notice. There being no pertinent courthouse records as far back as 1924, the date of death of this child would have to be verified by reference to the vital statistics files in Richmond.

St. Timothy's Chapel was said to have been closed for five years. An item in the "Manassas Journal Messenger", marked 1949, notes that the Chapel was established as a Mission of St. Mary's Church, Fairfax Station when Father Thomas E. O'Connell was Pastor. At the time of reopening, it was made a Mission of All Saints Church in Manassas, by order of Bishop Peter Ireton, Bishop of Richmond.

From the "Catholic Virginian", of December 14, 1949, is the statement of the Chapel was reopened "October 2, Feast of the Holy Rosary". Lt. Comdr. Robert Minton, Chaplain at the Quantico Marine Base, spoke on the appropriateness of the Chapel as a War Memorial and of the recitation of this occasion of the Rosary to Our Lady, Patroness of the Armed Forces.

Priests, of the Stigmatine Order at All Saints Church were sent regularly on the Sundays of each week until June, 1969, when St. Timothy's was established as a Parish, and Father Robert E. Nudd was assigned by the Bishop of Richmond as its Pastor.

Anyone attempting to write the history of St. Timothy's at this time must rely largely upon the memory of those persons who were St. Timothy's first parishioners. To those with a "sense of history", it is a kind of tragedy to find no records of the beginning of this Mission of St. Mary's when Father O'Connell, as Pastor of St. Mary's, apparently gave so ardently and unstintingly of his time and effort to the Catholic people in this wide area. According to information received from the Vice President of Holy Cross College, Worcester, Massachusetts, Monsignor O'Connell died September 11, 1960.

It is believed by some persons in the area that funds for the building of the Chapel were contributed by Holy Cross College, Worcester, Massachusetts. Mr. John Hamill, whose family have been residents for a hundred years of the home in which he lives opposite St. Mary's Church at Fairfax Station, believes the parishioners may have given the money through their offertory contributions. Rev. Joseph F. Donahue, Vice President of Holy Cross College, has graciously cooperated in the effort to determine how funds were raised, having made exhaustive searches of the records of the College. He spoke of a "vague recollection of Msgr. O'Connell's efforts to raise funds." He has made contact with a friend, Mr. Cornelius F. Maloney, Holy Cross '22, who writes, among other things:

“Timmy was not only a classmate of the late Msgr. O’Connell, but also his roommate—Ray Daley [his brother] says that Timmy planned to enter the priesthood after the war was over; so Msgr. [then Fr.] O’Connell’s efforts were more or less a double dedication.

“Apparently sufficient funds to finance construction of St. Timothy’s Chapel in Centreville, Va., weren’t procured, so the Daly family in Waterbury filled in the gap with their own money—this, according to Ray Daly . . .

Some members of the 1917 class contributed to the chapel; I guess many weren’t just able to do so, resulting in the family providing what was needed to complete the fund. . .”

As to the land, the records in the Clerk of the Court at Fairfax show: “This deed, made and entered into this 29th day of August, 1924, by and between: Davis Gheen and Jennie Gheen, his wife, parties of the first part; and The Rt. Rev. D. J. O’Connell, Roman Catholic Bishop of Richmond, and his successors in office, parties of the second part.

“Witnesseth: That the parties of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of \$10.00 cash in hand paid by the party of the second part, before the sealing and delivery hereof, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, do hereby with general warranty of title, grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the party of the second part and his successors in office, all that certain tract or parcel of land, situated in Centreville Magisterial District, Fairfax County, Virginia, bounded and described in a survey thereof, made August 20th, 1924, by Joseph Berry, County Surveyor, as follows, to wit: . . .”

A photostatic copy of the deed, from which the above quotation is the beginning, is a part of this history, and shows the description of the property, the signatures of the parties of the first part, and the notarization of the deed.

Incidents with respect to the construction of the Chapel are related by Harvey Gaskins, living at 6409 Centreville Road, who, as a young lad, was accustomed to riding his bicycle past the building site. Curious about the construction of the Chapel, he used to stop each day to watch the workmen, and would stay to hand them lumber and tools. He knew the builders, Mr. Clarence V. Buckley and Mr. Walter Menefee, and some of the workmen. He remembers the day that one of them fell from the scaffold, picked himself up, threw down his hammer, and quit the job.

It was fortunate that contact could be made with Mr. Clarence Buckley in 1970. He has since died, the other builder has been dead for many years. Mr. Buckley’s memory of his experience was vivid. He stated,

without hesitation, that the building was completed in November, 1923. However, newspapers maintained in "The Old Fairfax Herald Print Shop" show not only the completion date as 1924, but printed from time to time items concerning progress on construction of the Chapel. Though Mr. Buckley's statement concerning date of completion of his work is inaccurate, his memory of a poignant episode was clear.

He remembered the day his small son became ill and had to be taken to the hospital, and how Father O'Connell offered to advance money for hospital expenses. Though it was not necessary for him to accept Father's help, his gratitude seemed never to have died, and was probably intensified because he was not a Catholic.

Father O'Connell apparently endeared himself to the area people. He is said to have conducted a mission shortly after the opening of the Chapel which was attended by Protestants and Catholics, colored and white. Harvey Gaskins was among them. Father Habets, who succeeded Father O'Connell at St. Mary's, and served St. Timothy's, had great interest in the Negroes, for whom he is said to have built two churches for them in Norfolk.

Newspaper items relating to Father Habets are among those found in the "Fairfax Herald" files, as are those referred to, reporting progress on construction of the Chapel.

There have been obtained from the "Fairfax Herald" files photostatic copies of news items relating to St. Timothy's Chapel. There are quoted as follows:

October 3, 1924

"St. Timothy's Catholic Church, on the Manassas Road, is nearing completion, under the wise direction of Rev. Father O'Connell, who is very much beloved by his parishioners."

October 10, 1924

"David Breen, son of Joe and Gertie Breen, was laid to rest recently at Timothy's Catholic Church near Centreville. Although he was young, he was a bright and intelligent little boy, beloved by all who knew him. The church was crowded and the flowers sent by his many friends were beautiful. Father O'Connell sang the requiem mass with Miss Devitt at the organ."

October 10, 1924

“The little Catholic Mission on the Manassas Road is rapidly nearing completion. The primary teacher, Mrs. Cora Buckley, deserves great commendation for her efforts in cooperating with Father O’Connell to bring this work to a successful finish. Messrs. Menefee and Buckley also should be congratulated on their art. The edifice is an inexpensive, but pleasing, little structure.”

November 28, 1924

“Mass will be sung in the new Catholic Chapel at Centreville Sunday at 9 a.m.”

December 12, 1924

“A large congregation heard Father O’Connell’s farewell sermon in St. Timothy’s Church. Father O’Connell was much beloved by his parishioners.”

December 19, 1924

“Rev. Nicholas Habets, the new pastor of the Catholic churches in this vicinity announces the following Christmas services: At Fairfax Station 12 o’clock, Christmas eve, at Manassas, at 9 a.m., and at Centreville at 10:30 a.m., Christmas day. Father Habets writes the Herald: ‘All that believe that glory should be given to God, all who stand in need of real Christmas peace (and who does not) are invited to these prayerful celebrations, that the blessings of the Christ Child may come abundantly upon us as they came upon men of good will in the Jordean country.’”

Historians can be grateful to the “Fairfax Herald” for excellent coverage of the Centreville area, and in particular for the items relating to St. Timothy’s.

**St. Timothy’s Chapel From Its
Reopening in 1949 to 1969**

Among the families known to have attended Mass at St. Timothy’s Chapel during the twenty years prior to its establishment as a Parish are those families whose names follow:

Alt	Lee	O'Brien
Bentley	Miller	Salazar
Chaback	Mitchell, Laurence	Sears
Claveloux	Mitchell, Philip	Shirley
Eccles	Mulholland	Sprug
Getz	Murtaugh	Whetzel
Jensen	Newcombe	White

Many of these families are remembered for their services and donations to the Chapel. Because there were relatively few attendants at the Chapel during the twenty years indicated, intimate reference is possible.

Before the influx of families from the new communities, it was a delightful custom for the families named above to gather at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Claveloux, on Stone Road, for a picnic lunch, at least once during the summer. There, in the long-covered pavilion, with grill at one end and the pond down a slope in front of the pavilion, were spread the "covered dishes": fried chicken, of course, May Mitchell's pheasant, ham, a great variety of casseroles, salads of luscious tomatoes and cucumbers, etc., cake and other such delicacies, created by the skillful homemakers who always managed to bring the right thing, with few duplications, to this pond-side picnic. During the afternoon the children splashed in the pond, while the men (and sometimes the women) pitched horseshoes. Bernard always presided at the grill and even if one did not prefer hot dogs, no one refused his.

May O'Brien, the sister of Mrs. Claveloux, was co-hostess at these events. She and Bernard have gone on. God rest their souls. John was here and there to make guests welcome, parking the cars, etc. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Claveloux and is shown in the photograph made on the momentous occasion of dedication of the Stations of the Cross carved by Gen. Willard Webb of Clifton, Va.

Mrs. Claveloux, Gertrude to her intimates, which included all in the entire St. Timothy's congregation, was faithful to other commitments relating to the upkeep of the Chapel. In her fifteen years of residence, she has not only collected used Altar linens, mended and laundered them, but has been ready and willing to perform any service. She and her brother, Joseph Bentley, have made this history possible by joining in research efforts. John, too, was ready. It was he who furnished blue stone for the drive and, along with Philip Mitchell, cleared the church steps and drive in the winter. Tom Shirley was with them also, joining in the "man's work".

The congregation was so small before 1969 that nearly every individual can be associated with some service.

The Earl Jensen family has moved away, as has Grace Sears, the daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Claude Newcombe. There comes to mind that Saturday when all who could, left their homes and came to the Chapel to give it a spring cleaning. Grace is remembered as washing the windows. A "tail-gate" luncheon was enjoyed by all. Sometime before that, Grace's father, Capt. Newcombe, had painted the Sanctuary. William Eccles furnished exterior paint. May Mitchell, Philip's wife, made the reredos, aided and abetted by Gertrude Claveloux. Mrs. Mitchell and Mrs. Newcombe took their turn on the cleaning detail, different parishioners being assigned each week, until Mrs. Clara Shirley took this responsibility exclusively (if one forgets that her son Thomas and his wife really did the heavy work). Mr. Mitchell, who calls himself an "outsider" though he is not, put up the neat sign directing travelers to the Chapel.

Donna Chaback, until she and her husband left for service abroad, was always Mrs. Claveloux's willing helper. Although the persons here mentioned have performed services as indicated, certainly many, momentarily forgotten, have done likewise.

In days gone by there was another Murtaugh, not related, it is believed, to William and Elizabeth, whom the Mitchells took to All Saints Church on Sundays when the Chapel was closed. His name, with those of Mr. and Mrs. Lee, William Eccles, Claude Newcombe, and Mr. and Mrs. Lee Murtaugh and others have been added to the necrology.

In this account of families remembered are others, not all members of St. Timothy's. They include: Mr. Carper Buckley, originally of the Centreville area, who served Father at the first Mass at the Chapel. His grandmother, Cora Buckley, is mentioned in one of the newspaper items as a teacher, who was interested in the establishment of St. Timothy's.

Mrs. Wrenn, the sister of Timothy Daley, came each year from Waterbury, Connecticut, to visit the Chapel, in honor of her brother and for God's greater honor and glory. She died in October 1967. May her soul rest in peace. Two antique alabaster vases given by her are preserved here.

And last, but by no means least, in gratitude and admiration, there is brought into this history of St. Timothy's Chapel the name of General Willard Webb of Clifton, Virginia. It was the General, a Presbyterian Elder and Sunday School teacher, who, in 1967, carved the Stations of the Cross, now hanging on the walls of the Chapel. Many come to see this evidence of generosity and ecumenism. Much could be written about General Webb and possibly will be in supplements to this history.

Nothing identifies the artist but a spider web carved on the reverse side of the Stations. Notable, with respect to the General's Stations, is the fourteenth, the burial of Christ. Unlike the last Station which many have been accustomed to seeing is the stark, dramatic scene of a Roman soldier, a huge crowbar in hand, with which he had closed the tomb.

Thus it is that St. Timothy's was built, and supported by a handful of Catholics in the Centreville area. It is believed that not one of them was possessed of much of this world's goods. Certainly the Chapel is modest, but it has served its worthy purpose for nearly fifty years through the efforts of the dedicated priests assigned and those of the small community, all but submerged by the recent influx from the new subdivisions established in Fairfax County.

Father James Flanagan Comes To St. Timothy's As Priest-In-Charge

In the year 1966, attendance at the Sunday Mass at St. Timothy's Chapel had greatly increased. For a while, all who came could be comfortably seated. By 1967 there was not even standing room. A crowd outside on the steps pressed close to the door to hear Mass.

The subdivisions: London Towne, Chalet Woods and Country Club Manor had come into being, and more were on the way.

Father Parcheski, Pastor of All Saints Church in Manassas, assigned Father James Flanagan, of the Stigmatine Order, as Priest-in-Charge.

It was soon necessary to acquire space in the Chantilly Firehouse for three additional Sunday Masses.

Father Parcheski provided room and board for Father Flanagan at All Saints Rectory. This arrangement continued until Father Flanagan was compelled to look for quarters in Centreville, notably for office space. He visited the Misses Miller, who in 1950 had built their home on the tract known as The Oaks, which they sold in 1960 to the Bishop of Richmond. This they continued to occupy under lease. Father Flanagan asked if he might have a room there for use as an office. This was provided.

In October 1968, dormitory space was found for him, and he left All Saints Rectory to share the home of the lessees until their departure, on March 12, 1969, for a planned absence of a year abroad. (From March 1969 until September 1970, when Father Nudd, who succeeded Father Flanagan, moved to a home built for him in the Greenbriar subdivision, the home at The Oaks served as a parish house).

Father Flanagan entered upon his duties at St. Timothy's with great enthusiasm. His associations with the families in the subdivisions mentioned and the new ones established before he left were happy. He came to know many persons by their given names, and it was his practice at weekday Masses to call their names as he gave them Holy Communion.

Father Flanagan's homilies were prepared with great care. They were delivered with vocal effect that might have rivaled that of Demosthenes. (Was it not he who, according to legend, practiced his oratory at the seashore to develop volume sufficient to make his voice heard above the roaring of the waves?) "I liked it", says Mrs. Shirley. So also spoke a hard-of-hearing woman. Certainly, those on the steps—or the drive—heard Father—and were the better for it.

MATILDAVILLE: SUPPORT TOWN OF THE POTOWMACK CANAL

by Lisa Sanders*

Most of us aspire, some time in our lives, to achieve something that will bring profit to ourselves, yet open new doors, and bring profit to others. Such aspirations can lead to the accomplishment of great things. George Washington and Richard Henry (Lighthorse Harry) Lee aspired to help themselves, and at the same time, help others. George Washington believed in helping the young nation, America, open new doors to the west. Washington said in a letter to Lighthorse Harry Lee, "there is nothing which binds one Country of one State to another but interest; without this cement the Western Inhabitants . . . can have no predilection for us and a commercial connexion is the only tie we can have upon them."¹ Washington wished to benefit the people of young America by uniting them, and he saw the major rivers as the best way to make this vital "connection." So Washington enthusiastically presented his ideas for opening the west to the Virginia Legislature;² a bill he offered in 1784 was passed "almost immediately."³ Washington's fame and his efforts to unite the nation through commerce, along with his proposed plans for a canal, helped to get him elected the first president of the Potowmack Canal Company when it was formed in 1785.

The charter of the Potowmack Company stated its purpose to be to improve the navigation of the Potomac River "from tidewater to a point on the north branch by clearing a channel in the stream or by cutting canals around obstructions. . . ."⁴ Because one of these "obstructions" to river navigation was the Great Falls of the Potomac, plans were made to construct a canal to bypass the Falls. Washington saw the area around the Falls as one of great promise. He commented about the characteristics of the land:

"For water works of any kind these [mill] seats must be exceedingly valuable if the navigation obtains; of which no one I believe entertains a doubt at this time. . . . Another advantage to be derived is, that under all possible circumstances a town must be established there (it is now much wished for by mercantile people) whether the navigation is extended or not. In the last case, the lotts will be of great value; . . . [also] very desirable, because all water-borne produce *must* pass by, if it is not deposited here. . . ."⁵

*Ms. Sanders won 1st prize in the 1978-79 high school historical essay contest sponsored by the Historical Society.

Lee, too, felt optimistic about the canal and the surrounding land. Richard Henry saw the assets of the land a little differently than Washington did. He did not look to the opportunity of uniting the country with the canal, but instead looked forward to making money by establishing a town on the banks of the canal, a strategic and profitable location. He had obtained a lease from Bryan Fairfax for 400-500 acres of land for a period of 900 years!⁸ Just as Washington felt obligated to himself and others to establish a canal, so did Lee feel obligated to establish a town to profit others and himself. He wanted others to have a chance to profit from this valuable land. In a letter to James Madison, Lee said, "I consider myself bound to let you have part of the bargain with me . . . it would mutually advantage us. . . ." Lee described the advantages as the kind that "infinitely exceed that of any plot of ground in America,"⁸ and wished to "establish a manufacturing town"⁹ there.

Five years after the founding of the Potowmack Company, Lee got his wish. The Virginia Legislature passed a charter in 1790 for the establishment of a town of "40 acres of land at the Great Falls of the Potowmack . . . in possession of Bryan Fairfax . . . [to] be laid off into lots of half an acre . . . and to be established [as] a town by the name of Matildaville."¹⁰ The name of the town was given in remembrance of Lee's beautiful wife, Matilda, who had tragically died at the young age of twenty-eight. George Gilpin, Albert Russel, William Gunnel, and Josiah Clapham, along with Richard Bland Lee, Leven Powell, and Samuel Love, were given the many responsibilities of being trustees for the town. One example of the power they possessed was their privilege of being able to confiscate property from an owner if that owner did not obey the rules he was supposed to adhere to. The purchasers of lots were expected to build a house "at least 16 feet square [256 square feet], with a brick or stone chimney, to be furnished within five years from the day of sale. . . ."¹¹ If these rules were not obeyed, the trustees had the right to confiscate the property, sell it, and use the money obtained from the sale to benefit the citizens of Matildaville.¹²

Matildaville is said to have been the first planned town in America, but this does not appear to be true for at the same time Matildaville was established, provisions were made for the establishment of several other towns. Nevertheless, Matildaville *was* planned carefully, with seven streets that divided the town into a rectangular grid. Lee, Fairfax, Stuart, Fitzgerald, and Gilpin streets were all short streets that ran east-west. They were intersected by Washington and Canal streets, two long streets that ran north-south. Although a plat of the town of Matildaville was not found in a recent search, archaeological evidence

and hypotheses made by historians and "Matildaville Buffs" have helped to create a proposed plant.

Archaeological evidence and a few crumbling ruins indicate the kind of occupations held by those living in Matildaville. Of course, the canal provided many jobs such as plain laborer, overseer, or superintendent. The iron forge owned by John Potts indicated that there was some attempt to process metal.¹³ Two sawmills and a gristmill, "the site of on which one of the sawmills was later located,"¹⁴ helped support the small community's farmers by grinding wheat to produce flour, and by producing lumber for houses and canal construction, of course. Naturally, there were "millers" to run these mills. There was also a 30' x 40' market house. A wharf, along with several warehouses, encouraged trade from the boats passing along the canal; both the wharf and the warehouse provided storage space for those goods which, for some reason, might be delayed.¹⁵ There were also, for residential benefit, a springhouse, an icehouse, and, of course, boarding houses and private residences.¹⁶ The home of the company superintendent was rather elaborate, at least compared to the other company worker's houses. The common laborers lived in the 72' x 18' barracks or in small huts.¹⁷ But the superintendent lived in a two-story brick and stone "mansion." It had a spacious area, with a 25' front and 35' depth.¹⁸ Later the building was used as a jail.¹⁹ The other "executives" of the company lived in houses that were not quite as extravagant as the superintendent's house, but these houses were definitely more luxurious than those of the workers. The Widow Myers ran a tavern bearing her name, the Myers Tavern. The tavern, later called Dickey's Inn, survived the town until about 1950, when it burned down. The tavern was famous for its chicken dinners and was supposed to have served every president from Washington to Theodore Roosevelt.²⁰ The buildings mentioned here, however, may be more than actually existed, as "some may have been used for more than one purpose during the years."²¹ There was also a post office established at Matildaville, just before the town's demise, in 1828, but it was disestablished April 22, 1830, just two years later.²² The only postmaster was Louis Sewall.²³ There is no mention of which building may have served as the post office, but it is a reasonable guess that the post office was located in one of the existing buildings at the time, such as the superintendent's house.

Matildaville, then, was a thriving little community until 1828, when the Potowmack Canal Company was dissolved. No evidence of Matildaville's trading with other towns was evident in this research. This leads to the conclusion that the town had been forced to rely en-

tirely on the proceeds from the operations of the canal. Thus, when the Potowmack Company gave its consent for the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company to operate and made a conveyance to it in 1828, Matildaville lost its economic support.²⁴ Had the canal survived, Matildaville might have enjoyed longevity. Instead the board of directors decided that the canal was not providing enough money and abandoned it, surrendering its charter to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company.²⁵ In 1839, because of the lack of economic prosperity of the town, the Virginia Legislature officially disestablished the town of Matildaville.²⁶

Although the canal, and subsequently, Matildaville, failed, the entire project was admirable because it was the first attempt at canal building in America.²⁷ One may ask, what were the reasons for the failure of the canal and thus the failure of Matildaville? Ironically the reasons that made the canal and the town of Matildaville admirable are the same reasons that brought the project's failure. Many historians assert that the failure was due to the uncooperating elements of nature. The failure, however, was also due to Matildaville's serving as the laboratory for the experimentation of the first canal building in America.

One of the main reasons behind the failure of the Potowmack Canal can be attributed to mother nature. For example, the location of the canal provided many problems. The first things a visitor to the Great Falls may notice are rocky terrain and rock cliffs that geologists prize so much. The Potowmack Company was forced to blast through these rocks, costing much money and slowing progress. And whether the Company was blasting through the rocks, digging out the canal, or building locks, mother nature was always around to hamper progress. Rains and winter weather slowed work on the canal.²⁸ When the canal was completed, nature still refused to cooperate. The erratic behavior of the Potomac River brought the Company many woes by reducing the number of operative months to only three per year.²⁹ In the summer, low water hampered passage through the canal and through the river, as more rocks were bared, making navigation difficult.³⁰ In the winter, "ice closed navigation, and spring and fall freshets wrought great havoc."³¹ This erratic behavior of the river caused financial woes for the Company, making tolls as low as \$2,000.00 in some years and as high as \$22,500.00 in other years.³²

But nature was not the only thing that caused problems for the Potowmack Company. The failure also resulted simply because Matildaville served as the location of the laboratory for the experiment of canal

building. All experiments require a set procedure, and the well-trained scientist knows the exact procedure to follow when he goes about his work. Since the "procedure" or method to be followed while building the canal was undefined, work on the canal was not conducted in the same way by every team of workers, and confusion ensued. This undefined procedure led to many technical errors. A lack of foresight contributed to many faults that perhaps could have been avoided. For instance, the engineers did not know much about building canals. Washington, although he admitted to know nothing about constructing locks, designed the original plans for the canal, but suggested a "professional man" to carry out the work.³³ John Mason, a canal company employee, when he made a report on the canal in 1808, stated that "a good many mistakes were made in the beginning, as the canal was the first work of its kind in this country. . . ."³⁴ Often the wrong materials were used or irresponsible techniques caused financial problems. Mason stated that "several of the locks were wooden, which [made them] work clumsily and [they] were frequently out of repair. . . ."³⁵ As it was, many "financial difficulties . . . [and] unexpected expenses continually arose."³⁶ These surprise problems slowed work and cost more money. There can still be seen today an abandoned canal cut upstream from the fifth lock. According to the historical records, it was one "chosen by Superintendent James Smith, but recommended against . . . by English Engineer William Weston."³⁷ The mistake of the cut was apparently not discovered until it was well underway. It is said to have added five years of work to the project. Obviously, this cost the company much expense, by slowing work and wasting funds.

As one studies the history of the canal and its effect on Matildaville, it can be seen that the development of the canal and Matildaville progressively faltered. The trustees of Matildaville who were vested with the power to sell the lots in an auction did not have much luck. The first auction in 1795 met with little success, with only about twenty-five of the eighty or so lots being sold, and the second auction produced "negligible results."³⁸ One reason for this lack of interest in what should have been such valuable property was the slow construction of the canal. People were afraid to invest their money until the company had proven itself. The company "had been digging for twelve years and locks had yet to be completed," according to one observer.³⁹ Also, the first workers hired by the company did not help the company's reputation nor its progress. These laborers were rowdy Irishmen and Germans. They made the most of their daily ration of $\frac{3}{4}$ pint of rum, and somehow seemed to come up with more of the "demon juice." The men, roaring drunk and rowdy,

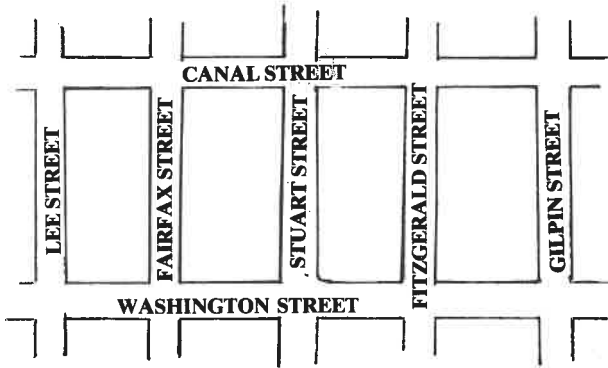
were said to have attacked some of the ration wagons, making it difficult for supplies to be delivered.⁴⁰ A corrupt superintendent was said to have urged his workers to raid the town of Matildaville and make merry.⁴¹ Events or even rumors such as these would hardly increase the attractiveness of Matildaville. That same superintendent, a Mr. Stewart, wasted much money building useless machines to remove stone from the locks.⁴² He obviously cost the company much money. James Rumsey, the man whom he had succeeded, brought charges against him for his corrupt nature. Although the charges were turned down by the company, Stewart was soon discharged "for reasons relative to the interest of the company. . . ."⁴³

The company, therefore, was already suffering before the canal was even completed. Its low funds were evident in many letters from Superintendent James Rumsey to his superiors. Rumsey asked many times for money and materials, but the response was always slow. In one of his letters Rumsey pleads, "I have been amazingly distressed for the . . . powder that I wrote for So Long Since . . . and the Consequence was my being obliged to buy a considerable Quantity of Powder at a very Dear Rate."⁴⁴ He goes on to state that "I cannot do the Duty which I ought to Do for [the company] . . . the Business has often suffered for want of the present Influence of Gold."⁴⁵ Although Rumsey was later supplied by the company, he was not given all he had asked for as the "directors did not think it proper . . . to send [him] any more at present."⁴⁶ The difficulties go on and on. The company even got desperate enough to sponsor a few "not very successful lotteries" to raise money for the canal.⁴⁷ Also, the company was hard pressed enough to open the cannal before it was fully completed. Captain George Pointer, a black worker on the canal, stated that "a machine was got underway to lower the flour down for the boat to take it down, as the locks was not yet finished."⁴⁸

It is obvious that the problems seemed to be endless for the company and the town of Matildaville. Lighthorse Harry Lee was ruined financially with the help of his investment in Matildaville. And George Washington, the all-American hero to whom no wrong could come, actually failed in something. The failure, however, was, in the words of the National Park Service, a magnificent one. The first public improvement project in our country, although a flop, was at least a start to inspire new and successful projects in our nation's history.



**The Seal of the Potowmack
Canal Company**



A POSSIBLE PLAN OF MATILDAVILLE

This possible plan of the streets of Matildaville makes no attempt to portray the streets according to distance or scale. It only attempts to show where and how the streets were arranged and located. The author credits the plan of streets to the *History of the Patowmack Canal: Matildaville*, by Arthur G. Barnes, (Williamsburg: Southside Historical Sites, Inc., March 31, 1978.) The book's presentation of the plans may be seen in figure 3, between pages 66 & 67, figure 4, between pages 68 & 69, and figure 5, between pages 70 & 71. These presentations split the streets up, and the author has taken the liberty of piecing the streets together. The reader who desires a more accurate picture of the plan of streets is referred to this book.

FOOTNOTES

¹*History of the Great Falls Canal and Locks 1785-1802* (Washington, D.C.: George Washington Memorial Task Committee of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the National Park Service, 1969), p. 7. (Cited hereafter as *History of the Great Falls Canal and Locks 1785-1802*.)

²Jean Geddes, *Fairfax County Historical Highlights from 1607* (Middleburg: Delinger's, 1967), p. 59. (Cited hereafter as Jean Geddes.)

³*Ibid.*

⁴*History of the Great Falls Canal and Locks 1785-1802*, p. 9.

⁵Arthur G. Barnes, *History of the Potowmack Canal: Matildaville* (Williamsburg: Southside Historical Sites, Incorporated, 1978), p. 53. (Cited hereafter as Arthur G. Barnes.)

⁶Elizabeth Miles Cooke, *The History of the Old Georgetown Pike* (Annandale, Virginia: Charles Baptie Studios, 1977), p. 54.

⁷Arthur G. Barnes, p. 52.

⁸*Ibid.*

⁹Richard Henry Lee, letter to James Madison. Mimeographed from the Manuscripts of Richard Henry Lee (originals held by Virginia Historical Society).

¹⁰Hennings Statutes, volume 13, pp. 171-173. Handtyped excerpts concerning Matildaville.

¹¹*Ibid.*

¹²*Ibid.*

¹³Thomas F. Hahn, I.A., *George Washington's Canal at Great Falls, Virginia* (Shepherdstown, West Virginia: Thomas F. Hahn, 1976), p. 18. (Cited hereafter as Thomas F. Hahn.)

¹⁴*Ibid.*

¹⁵*Ibid.*

¹⁶*Ibid.*

¹⁷*Ibid.*

¹⁸*Ibid.*

¹⁹Caption under picture displayed in Visitor's Center, Great Falls Park, Great Falls, Virginia.

²⁰Paula Tarnapol, "George's Dream: Waltzing Matildaville" (*The Washington Post, Weekend* magazine section, January 5, 1979), p. 9.

²¹Thomas F. Hahn, p. 20.

²²Virginia Historical Society, Manuscript 2 L 5125, pp. 61-65. Hand copied and retyped excerpt.

²³*Ibid.*

²⁴Thomas F. Hahn, p. 20.

²⁵Jean Geddes, p. 61.

²⁶Arthur G. Barnes, p. 74.

²⁷Jean Geddes, p. 61.

²⁸Ella May Turner, *James Rumsey: Pioneer in Steam Navigation* (Scottsdale, Pennsylvania: Mennonite Publishing House, 1930), p. 37. (Cited hereafter as Ella May Turner.)

²⁹*History of the Great Falls Canal and Locks 1785-1802*, p. 28.

³⁰Jean Geddes, p. 61.

³¹Cora Bacon-Foster, "Washington's Dream of Trade" (*The Herald*, August 4, 1907), p. 17 (photographed copy).

³²Jean Geddes, p. 61.

³³Ella May Turner, p. 46.

³⁴John Mason, Report on the Potowmack Canal, 1808, at the Request of Albert Gallatin, Secretary of the U.S. Treasury (typed copy).

³⁵*Ibid.*

³⁶Nan Netherton, and others, *Fairfax County, Virginia A History* (Fairfax, Virginia: Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, 1978), p. 205.

³⁷Thomas F. Hahn, p. 31.

³⁸Arthur J. Barnes, p. 75.

³⁹*Ibid.*, p. 76.

⁴⁰*History of the Great Falls Canal and Locks 1785-1802.*

⁴¹Ella May Turner, p. 54.

⁴²*Ibid.*, p. 53.

⁴³Ella May Turner, p. 53.

⁴⁴*Ibid.*, p. 58.

⁴⁵*Ibid.*, p. 41.

⁴⁶*Ibid.*

⁴⁷*Ibid.*, p. 43

⁴⁸*History Glimpses of Great Falls*, pamphlet (xerox copy).

⁴⁹Petition of Captain George Pointer (September, 1829), transcribed by Jen Suarez, December 20, 1975.

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Picture Display of Matildaville in Great Falls Park. Great Falls, Virginia: National Park Service.

Tarnapol, Paula. "George's Dream: Waltzing Matildaville," *The Washington Post Weekend* section, January 5, 1979.

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Virginia Historical Society Manuscript 2 L 5125, pp. 61-65 (typed excerpts).

Marriage Bonds—1788

Fairfax County, Virginia

The Fairfax County Historical Society has recently acquired thirty-three original marriage bonds for the year 1788. Copies of the bonds are available for reference use in the Colonial Room of the courthouse. The following chart of the bonds was compiled by Constance K. Ring.¹

¹Mrs. Ring assists Mrs. James M. Sprouse in indexing the colonial records of Fairfax County.

(S) denotes a signature, (M) a mark, (NSM) no signature or mark

Date	Groom	Security for L50	Bride
Jan. 2	Jeremiah Simmonds (S)	Benjamin Goodrich (M)	Eleanor Goodrich
Feb. 8	Richard Browning (S)	James Hendricks (S)	Elizabeth Robinson
Mar. 18	Kinnellum Bladen (M)	Joseph Bladen (S)	Nancy Burr
Mar. 21	Leonard Reeves (M)	John Sullivan (S)	Mary Creed?
Apr. 21	William Middleton (S)	John Moss (NSM)	Frances Moss
Apr. 24	Michael Craiger (M)	Philip Furlow (S)	Rebecca Ranthine
Apr. 24	John Allison (S)	Robert McCrea (S)	Rebecca McCrea
May 6	Samuel Goodes (S)	William Cottingham (S)	Ebbe Cottingham
May 21	John Love (S)	Josiah Wattson (S)	Elizabeth Wattson
June 13	George Hill (S)	Joseph Caverly (S)	Elizabeth Benton
June 18	John Tomison (M)	William Price (S)	no name given
June 19	Samuel Shannon (S)	James Carlon (S)	Elizabeth Darby ²

²Mother Elizabeth Darby (M) testified that her daughter Betsey was twenty-one years old. John Geisling (S) testified same.

June 23	David Johnston (S)	William Mitchell (S)	Christian Stuard
July 12	James Robinson (S) ³	Patrick Byrne (S)	Mary Youngston ⁴

³Signed name as James Roberts

⁴Elizabeth Dennison swore before W. Brown (S) that “she is according to the best of her knowledge and information which is derived from a register thereof kept in a book now mislaid, between the age of twenty-five and twenty-six years and that Mary Youngston her sister is older than her herself and consequently more than twenty-six years old”.

July 18	Job Harding ⁵ (S)	William Farrell (S)	Ann Peak
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*Father Edward Harding (S) of Loudoun County consents to son's marriage. 7-12-88.

July 21	Richard Tatterson (M)	David Johnston (S)	Polly Hooper
July 22	William Spencer (S)	William Jones (M)	Margaret Haislop
Aug. 23	Thomas Smith (M)	Jeremiah Adams (M)	Susanna Wingate ^e

*Father Henry Winget (S) consents to marriage. 5-15-88.

Aug. 27	Peter McKenna (S)	Alex Hannah (S)	Rebecca Laird ⁷
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⁷Mary Hannah swore before Robert McCrea (S) that Rebecca was above twenty-one years of age.

Sept. 18?	Jacob Hall (M)	John Allison (S)	Ann Allison
Sept. 20	John Allen (M)	Thomas McLaughlin (S)	Sarah Jacobi
Oct. 3	John Smith (S)	Gerard Trammell (S)	Lucinda Trammell
Oct. 8	William Rich (M)	George Tooshears (S)	Christiana Rhodes
		Michael Steibre (S)	
Oct. 24	Jesse Lowden (M)	Joseph Thompson (M)	Mary Thompson
Nov. 1	Thomas Madden (M)	James Robertson (M)	Mary Robertson
Nov. 12	Theofulus Randall (S)	Benjamin Bozwell ⁸ (M)	Rachel Bozwell

*Benjamin Swore before Jesse Taylor (S) that Rachel "is upwards of twenty years of age".

Nov. 16	John Davis (M)	John Moss (S)	Eleanor Smith
Nov. 19	Mungo Dykes (S)	John Longden (S)	Ann Longden
Nov. 19	William Wright (S)	Sabrett Scott ⁸ (M)	Mary Sharp

*Scott swore before Charles Broadwater (S) that Mary was twenty-one and a free person.

Dec. 5?	John Alex. Harris (S)	John Addison (S)	Susanna Addison
Dec. 6	Levi Lewis (S)	Thomas Trammell ¹⁰ (S)	Anna Trammell

¹⁰Thomas Trammell swore before Robert McCrea (S) that Anna was above twenty-one years of age.

Dec. 16	William Frizell (M)	Thomas Beach (M)	Jane Follen
Dec. 27	Solomon Casette (S)	Thomas West (S)	Jane Bates ¹¹

¹¹Parents Edward (S) and Sarah (M) Bates certified before Timothy Carington (S) that Jane had consent to marry. 12-22-88.

Know all Men by these Presents that we Timellum Bladen
 ———— and Joseph Bladen
 are held and jointly bound unto his Excellency Edm^d Randolph Esq^r
 Governor of Virginia and his Successors for the Use of the Commonwealth in
 the full and just sum of Fifty pounds Current Money of Virginia to the
 which payment well and truly to be Made we bind ourselves and each
 of us, our and each of our Heirs Executors and Administrators jointly and sever-
 ally jointly by these Presents sealed with our Seals and Dated 10th Days of March 1788
 The Condition of the above Obligation is such that whereas there hath
 this Day Spaid from the Clerk's Office of Surfer County Licence for a Marriage
 Intended to be had and solemnized Between the Above bound
Timellum Bladen and Wanney Burr —
 Now if there is naturall Cause to obstruct the said marriage then the
 above Obligation to be void or else remain in full force virtue
 Sealed & Delivered in Presence of
Timellum Bladen his
Joseph Bladen Junr
Joseph Bladen

JOHN TURLEY, TOBACCO INSPECTOR FAIRFAX COUNTY

By Beth Mitchell
(Mrs. Myles B.)

John Turley held an important public office in Prince William County, Virginia. Tobacco was the cash crop of the colonial era in Virginia; it served as a medium of exchange; officials were paid in tobacco, fines and tithes were levied in tobacco, and accounts were paid in tobacco.

Governing bodies of Virginia attempted many times to regulate and control the tobacco trade. Tobacco was first cultivated by the English settlers of Virginia in 1612. By 1709 tobacco production was 29,000,000 pounds.¹ Tobacco planters were plagued with the problem of overproduction and the resulting low prices. In order to protect the market for tobacco many laws and regulations were established. No serious attempt was made to set up a comprehensive inspection system until 1730 when the General Assembly passed a detailed inspection bill that finally won the support of plants and merchants.² Although this bill was frequently amended during the colonial period, the essential features were not changed.

Governor Gooch appointed commissioners to build the inspection warehouses and then carefully chose the tobacco inspectors, selecting them for their skill and integrity.³ October the 22nd, 1732, the Governor with the advice of the Council "was pleas'd to nominate & appoint the following Person to be Inspectors to Tob^o at the Several Warehouses . . ."⁴ The list that followed contained sixty-six warehouses with two persons nominated for each warehouse. John Turley and Thomas Osborne were appointed for the Quantico Warehouse which was located at the head of Quantico Creek upon the land of Richard Brit in Prince William County. Other warehouses in the Northern neck and their inspectors were: Lewis Elzey and John Awbry at Hunting Creek; Edward Barry and Francis Awbry at Pohick; Townsend Dade and John Washington at Boydshole; and Benjamine Strother and Charles Brent at Marlbro.

The location of the warehouse at Quantico and Great Hunting Creek had been established by act of the General Assembly in 1730 which directed that a warehouse be built at Quantico upon Robert Brent's land and at Great Hunting Creek upon Broadwater's land. In May of 1732 it was reported that the tobacco houses built upon Brent's land

"have been since burnt." New houses were then built on Richard Brit's land at the head of Quantico. Broadwater's land was found to be an inconvenient location: so, no house was built there. A warehouse "in the room of it" was built upon Simon Pearson's land on the upper side of Great Hunting Creek.⁵

After John Turley was appointed inspector he probably took an oath at the Prince William County Court House: "Carefully to view and examine all tobacco brought to any public warehouse whereof he is appointed an inspector; and to the best of his skill and judgment, not to receive any tobacco prohibited by this act or that is not sound, well-conditioned, and in his judgment, clear of trash, sand, and dirt; and faithfully to discharge the duty of his office according to the directions of the same, without favour, affection, partiality, or other by-respect."⁶ John Turley then had to enter into bond, with good security, in the penalty of one thousand pounds for the true and faithful performance of his office and trust. His duties and responsibilities were set forth in great detail in the legislation passed in 1730.

The Assembly in May of 1732 decided that the salaries allowed to the inspectors were too high and very "unequally settled with respect to the merit of their respective services." They found that great quantities of tobacco were taken to some of the inspection warehouses with great expense for servants, and yet the inspectors of the small warehouses, where fewer servants were needed, were paid the same amount. In 1730 the salary for the inspectors had been sixty pounds per annum, but beginning 10 November 1732 each warehouse was assigned a rate in order that the salaries would be "on a more equal footing." The salaries for Prince William County were: At Quantico, forty pounds per annum; at Great Hunting Creek, thirty pounds per annum; at Pohic, thirty five pounds per annum.⁷ So although Quantico rated the top salary in Prince William County, John Turley was paid twenty pounds less than the salary of the previous year.

Administrative mix-up kept the scales and weights for some of the warehouses from arriving on time in 1732, so the time open for inspection was extended until August 16. The normal time when inspectors had to be on duty to receive and inspect, as established in 1730, was from the tenth of November to the last day of June, except for "Sundays, holydays observed at Christmas, Easter, and Whitsuntide, or when otherwise hindered by sickness." On application to them the inspectors had to deliver tobacco for exportation at any time.

The setting up of the tobacco inspection system also included

building problems. Some of the Commissioners who were charged with erecting the public warehouses, by a "misconstruction of the said act," failed to erect and fix the necessary prizes in the warehouse and cranes on the wharfs. They also neglected to provide "other necessary conveniences" and did not order the warehouses to be double covered or otherwise made tight. The tobacco inspectors were given the authority to take care of these problems and deduct the expense out of the rents.

John Turley, as an inspector, had an expense account which had to be submitted annually to the General Assembly. He had to report all sums of money, fees and profits which he received. He then deducted his salary and the warehouse rent if it was built on private property. He was reimbursed for the nails that were used to re Cooper and secure the hogsheads for shipping after they had been inspected.⁸

Another item on the expense account of John Turley was the cost of the printed notes and receipts which he was required to give. The inspectors issued a tobacco note to the owner of each hogshead that passed the inspection. These tobacco notes were the only currency in Virginia until the French and Indian War. The tobacco notes were legal tender within the county issued and in adjacent counties except when the counties were separated by a large river. They circulated freely and eventually came into the hands of a buyer who presented them at the warehouse named on the note and exchanged them for the amount of tobacco specified on the note. If the buyer was dissatisfied with the quality of the tobacco, he could appeal to the justices of the peace of the county court. If they found the tobacco to be unsound or trashy, the inspectors paid a fee of five shillings to each of the justices; should the tobacco be found sound, the buyer paid the fee.

When a planter brought tobacco to the warehouse which did not fill a hogshead, he was given a transfer note for the number of pounds he delivered to the warehouse. These transfer notes could be accumulated and exchanged for a tobacco note. Often the smaller parcels of tobacco and transfer notes were necessary in order to pay a fine, a levy or a creditor.

John Turley was allowed to hire watchmen for the warehouses who were paid the sum of "20s per M^o" out of His Majesty's Revenues. Another of his expenses was the payment of thirty pounds of tobacco for the cask. This expense was just a bookkeeping item since the person who took away the tobacco had to pay the inspectors thirty pounds of tobacco for the cask. Inspection fees were collected from the buyer and entered into the books.

John Turley probably dreaded the end of the fiscal year as much as any present government employee. He undoubtedly had problems getting his books in order so that he could meet the July sixth deadline. The law stated that the inspectors "shall carefully enter, in a book to be provided and kept for that purpose, the marks, numbers, gross, nett weight and tare, of all tobacco viewed and stamped by them as aforesaid, and in what ships or vessels the same shall be laden or put on board; And shall also, with every sloopload, or boat load of tobacco, send a list of the marks, numbers, gross, nett weight and tare of every hogshead of tobacco then delivered, to be given to the master of the ship or vessel" The master of the ship then had to make two copies and deliver them to the naval officer who then "annexed" one to the master's certificate on clearance and sent one to the chief customs officer.⁹

At the time of the disputed Prince William County election of 1736, it became apparent that stronger measures were needed to assure the impartiality of the inspectors. In that election Thomas Osborne, who had been appointed inspector with John Turley in 1732, was accused of serving liquor after the election writ was issued. The main charge against him, however, was that he used his position as tobacco inspector to force people to vote for him. The House resolved that Osborne "was guilty of very enormous misdemeanors in that office, in breach of his oath."¹⁰ The House then ruled that Osborne could not be seated in the Assembly and the Governor was asked to remove him from his position as county justice and all other offices in the government. The Assembly then passed a new election law which stipulated that sheriffs, undersheriffs, and tobacco inspectors could not run for the House of Burgesses until two years after leaving office. The House also imposed a ten pound fine on tobacco inspectors for undue influence over the voters.¹¹

The Assembly was flexible in establishing new warehouses as the demand arose. Sometimes two warehouses close together would be put under one inspector. In 1730 the governor had appointed three inspectors for each warehouse; by 1732 it was found that two were adequate, and provisions were made to call in a third inspector in case of disputes. Sometime between 1733 and 1736 John Turley was made inspector at Occoquan. This warehouse was much closer to his home on Sandy Run than the warehouse at Quantico. The trip to Quantico to perform his duties must have been quite tiring, and it is possible that he lived in the Quantico area during the time he was inspector and while he was estab-

lishing his plantation on Sandy Run.

Just as his first co-inspector had his troubles, so did John Turley and Edward Barry, Inspectors at Occoquan:

“At a Council held at the Capitol the 15th of December 1736 On Reading the Complaint of John Grigg of the County of Prince William Gent against Edward Barry & John Turley Inspectors at Ockoquan for divers misdemeanors in their Office the said Barry having resign’d his Office, John Turley the other Inspector this day appeared & offering to Justifie his conduct by the Testimony of Evidence so far as the said complaint concerns him. It is ordered that the Justices who took the Depositions upon the said Complaint or any two of them be and are hereby empowered & required to take the Depositions of such Persons as the said John Turley shall desire for his Vindication giving due Notice to Mr. Grigg the Complainant & that they return the said Depositions to the Council Office with all convenient speed.”¹²

Just over four months later, the depositions were returned and at a Council held 3 May 1737 it was recorded:

“On Reading the several Depositions on the part of John Turley one of the Inspectors at Ockoquan Warehouse, It is the Opinion of this Board that the said Turley hath fully Justified himself from any Misbehaviour in his Office & therefore Ordered to be continued.”¹³

It would be interesting to read those depositions so that the charges against Barry and Turley would be known and John Turley’s defense would be recorded.

A group of Fairfax County residents complained about the manner in which John Turley discharged his official duties and sent the following petition to the Governor and to the Council of Virginia.

Wee the Subscribers in behalf of our Selves and Seaverall other, the inhabitants of the County of Fairfax Do humbly Beg leave to Represent that whereas a Complaint hath Been Exhibited in the Court of the Said County Against John Turley and Edward Washington, inspectors at Occoquan Warehouse in the Aforesaid County for Mal Administration of their Office and Commissions have Been and appointed and Depositions Taken Pursuant to the Act of Generall Assembly in that Case made and Provided by which Depositions it Apears that the Said inspectors have been guilty of Sundry Misdemeanors in the Execution of their Said Offices: Since the Taking of which Depositions the Said inspectors have got a Petition Directed to your Honours Subscribed by Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Said County Justifying their Conduct in their Said Office many of which Subscribers are persons in ways Interested in the Affair and never brought any Tobacco to the Said Warehouse We Therefore

humbly hope that ye Said petition will not be of any Weight with your Honours but that wee and Seavirall Others who live Contiguous to the Said Warehouse and have Some of us received Such unjust treatment from ye Said John Turley in particular that wee are obliged to carry our Tobacco to another Warehouse a much greater Distance to avoid his unjustly Condemning the Same and by the Influence which he has over the Said Edward Washington prevailing with him to Agree with him therein may be Relieved by the Removall of the Said inspectors and Supplying their Places with persons of more Honesty and Impartiality.¹⁴

The Council which met 24 October 1743 considered the petition and recorded this:

“On hearing the complaint and Depositions taken in Fairfax County against John Turley an Inspector at Occoquan Warehouse It appearing upon the face of them that the Facts he is accused of are most of them but trifling & of an ancient date that in his defence he has sufficiently clear’d himself of most and several Witnesses giving him a good Character It is Order’d that the said Turley be discharged and acquitted.”¹⁵

The next four years were evidently free from court actions. The next mention in the Executive Journals was 3 November 1746 when it was ordered that William Payne jun’r be appointed Inspector at Occoquan Warehouse in the County of Fairfax in the Room of Mr. Turley.¹⁶

Thus John Turley’s service as Tobacco Inspector ended. His son, Sampson Turley, was recommended and appointed inspector at Pohick in Fairfax County 15 December 1748 and served at various times at Pohick, Occoquan, and Colchester warehouses until 1789.¹⁷ So it was that for over fifty-seven years the chances were good that when a planter took his tobacco to be inspected in the southern part of Fairfax County, the name of the tobacco inspector on the tobacco note or transfer note would be Turley.

FOOTNOTES

¹Melvin Herndon, *Tobacco in Colonial Virginia*. The Virginia 350th Anniversary Celebration Corporation, Williamsburg, Virginia, 1957. p. 44.

²Hening, *Statutes*.

³Gooch Papers, Letter 10 July 1731. PRO CO5/1322, p. 384. Manuscript Division, Library of Congress.

⁴*Executive Journals of the Council of Colonial Virginia, 1680-1754*. Henry R. McIlwaine (1925-30) and Wilmer L. Hall (1945), eds. 5 vols. Richmond, Va.: 1925-45. vol. 4:285-86.

⁵Hening, *Statutes*, 4:331. Although the Assembly passed the Tobacco Act in 1730, the approval of the Crown was not given until 1731. During January and February 1732,

the tobacco ships did not appear and this caused planters to speculate that merchants in London were boycotting Virginia planters because of the new tobacco inspection laws. Later there were reports that the law would be repealed. When they heard this some of the "most turbulent" of the Northern Neck planters burned four warehouses in one month so that they could be rid of inspection and continue to cheat buyers with bad tobacco and false packing. Richard L. Morton, *Colonial Virginia*. The University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, 1960. vol. 2:512-513. It is possible that the tobacco house on Brent's land was one of the four.

⁸Hening, *Statutes*, 4:261.

⁷*Ibid.*, 4:334, 336.

⁸*Ibid.*, 4:262.

⁹*Ibid.*,

¹⁰*Journals of the House of Burgesses of Virginia, 1619-1776*. John P. Kennedy (1905-1907) and Henry P. McIlwaine (1908-15), eds. 13 vols. Richmond, Va.: 1905-15. vol. 1727-1740, pp. 265-265.

¹¹*Ibid.*, p. 279.

¹²*Executive Journals of the Council of Colonial Virginia, 1680-1754*, op. cit., 4:386.

¹³*Ibid.*, 4:394.

¹⁴Colonial Papers, Folder 41, #4. VSL.

¹⁵*Executive Journals of the Council of Colonial Virginia, 1680-1754*, op. cit., 5:133.

¹⁶*Ibid.*, 5:222.

¹⁷*Ibid.*, 5:278. Also *Court Order Books 1749-1789*, Fairfax County, Virginia.

A HISTORY OF PLEASANT GROVE AND GUNNEL'S CHAPEL METHODIST CHURCHES FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

By Michael Joseph Hicks*
Langley High School
McLean, Virginia

Introduction

This paper is a history of Pleasant Grove and Gunnel's Chapel Methodist Churches of Fairfax County, Virginia. It is the result of personal interviews with member's of both congregations and the study of as much printed material as the author could find. It is factually complete to the authors knowledge in documenting the church's founding, land transactions, etc. yet pitifully lacking considering the immense historical and social significance of these churches.

Mrs. Cornelius Costley stated that "The Church is the people, not the building" and the author has tried to incorporate this view into this work.

Michael Joseph Hicks

Mr. Hicks won 2nd prize in the 1978-79 high school historical essay contest sponsored by the Historical Society.

PLEASANT GROVE METHODIST CHURCH McLean, Virginia

In 1811 George Smith, a wealthy and landed man from the Fairfax County, Virginia area, died. In his will he stipulated that a large parcel of his land, known as the Towlston Grange House, be ceded to his son, Samuel Smith (1778-1839). In 1825 Samuel Smith deeded a plot of his land to a Black slave, Daniel Sharper, who moved to the Fairfax County area before 1800, from the James River area.¹ The sum of land ceded to Daniel Sharper was thirty-four acres on the Northeast corner of his land which was bounded, in the east, by Tolson Mill Road (now Old Tolson Mill Road).² According to Samuel Smith's son, Wethers Smith, at about 1846, "Daniel [Sharper] was a colored slave of Robert Lindsay and had full permission to hire himself out at a good advantage as he could and return to his master an annual sum, and when he had returned the sum agreed upon was to be free". Also, "Maria, his wife, and all his children were free".³

The Sharper family worshipped at the Union Methodist Church⁴ in McLean, Virginia, on what is now called Towlston Road. Union Methodist split during the American Civil War (1861-1865) and a faction (Pro-South) withdrew to form Andrew Chapel.⁵ The black members of the congregation continued to worship at Union Church throughout the War. Immediately after the Civil War the black members of the congregation withdrew from Union Church to form their own church.

This new congregation worshipped at Odrick's (sic) Corner School House in the Ash Grove area (in the vicinity of what is now Leesburg Pike and the Dulles access road). This congregation, which would be known as Pleasant Grove, worshipped at the school in the morning while another newly formed Black church, Shiloh Baptist Church, held services in the evening.⁶

As the years went by the congregation grew in number and a new church building was deemed necessary to house the services. In July, 1892,⁷ under the leadership of Rev. B. W. Brown, an appeal was headed under the Washington Conference, Lynchburg District, Langley Circuit, Rev. Josheph (sic) Henry, Pastor in Charge, Rev. Charles G. Key Presiding Elder that thirty-nine members of the Pleasant Grove congregation, which was then holding services in Odrick's (sic) Corner School House in the Ash Grove area, wished to construct a house of worship for the congregation. Samuel Sharper (1822-1893), son of Daniel Sharper, was authorised to gain subscribers to collect money for this new church.⁸

A group of founders were formed and are as follows:

Samuel Sharper	Wm. Hatcher Sr.
John Mills	Wm. Harris
L. H. Sharper	Henry Eskridge ⁹
Wm. S. Sharper	

Three of the seven, of whom none are living today, were a father and two sons of the Sharper family. Because of the Sharper influence in the founding and upkeep of the church it was eventually known as the Sharper Church.

At the end of 1892 the founders had \$68.00 on hand for the purchase of land for the church. In 1893 under the leadership of Rev. A. F. Ennels an acre of ground was found that was suitable for the church and a cemetery and could be purchased for \$144.00. With help the founders raised another \$78.50 making a total of \$146.50 for the purchase of the land.

The land was purchased and the deed was recorded in November, 1893, in Fairfax County Deed Book Q, Page 202.¹⁰

Only \$2.50 remained in the treasury, but more was still needed for the actual construction of the church. By the end of 1893, \$53.49 worth of lumber had been purchased for construction of the church, making a total of \$131.49 raised for the year 1893.¹¹

Construction on the church commenced and the work was donated by members of the congregation. In particular, a great deal of work was donated by L. H. Sharper, a carpenter and founder, and Alfred Louis and W. Greyson who donated much time and energy in hauling lumber for the church.¹²

The original church was a one room building of frame and clapboard construction. The bottom beams were hand hewn. The windows were plain and the ceiling followed the pitch of the roof and was topped by a simple steeple.

Samuel Sharper passed on in 1893 and was the first individual buried at Pleasant Grove, before the church was finished.¹³

In 1894 Rev. J. G. Goodrich replaced Rev. Ennels and \$200 was donated by the General Conference of the Methodist church.¹⁴ By the end of 1894, the church had been raised. The work continued and on July 21, 1894, under the leadership of Rev. J. E. Williams, the cornerstone was laid. On July 19, 1896, under Rev. R. H. Alexander the first service was held in what is now known as Pleasant Grove Methodist Church.¹⁵

From 1898, when Rev. H. C. Connors replaced Rev. Alexander, until 1913, no real improvements on the structure of Pleasant Grove Church were made, but Pleasant Grove, Gunnel's Chapel, Val Sinai, and a Sterling church formed a four church circuit called Ash Grove, which was short lived.¹⁶ The congregation continued to grow and the services were based on the original Methodist Doctrine.¹⁷

In the next years a series of improvements on the Pleasant Grove building were made. In 1913, under the guidance of Rev. J. W. Colbert, two new stoves to heat the church were purchased. Two years later a new roof was constructed at a cost, to the congregation, of \$105.92 for materials. Labor was again donated. In 1918, under the spiritual guidance of Rev. J. C. Johnson, a new organ was purchased. In 1921, while Rev. J. A. Reid was the minister, lightning damaged the church causing approximately \$200 in damage. Again, in 1921, at a cost of \$1900, a new basement was dug, a new roof installed, redecoration of both the exterior and interior was made, new memorial stained glass windows and a furnace were installed.¹⁸

Reverend C. C. Wilson took charge of Pastoral duties in 1938, at Pleasant Grove. He also served from 1938 to 1959 at Gunnel's Chapel and Galloway's Methodist Episcopal Church and performing, at times, three services a day. Rev. Wilson was well known for the physical improvements made under his administration at all three churches.¹⁹ In 1944, asbestos roofing and siding were put on and the outside woodwork was painted at a cost of \$1400. 1946 saw the installation of an oil burner, ducts, and fans at a cost of \$700, and a provision was made for a building fund.

In 1959, Rev. Wilson passed away and was replaced by Rev. Moses L. Praher. Rev. S. K. Murray served out the remainder of Rev. Wilson's term.²⁰

Around this time the Washington Conference (which was Black) merged with the Baltimore Conference (which was White), and all Washington, D.C. and Maryland churches went to the Baltimore Conference; but the Black Virginia churches joined the Black North Carolina Conference, and not the White Virginia Conference since the majority of Virginia churches were, at that time segregated.²¹ In 1962 new cinder block rest rooms were constructed. The labor was again donated.²²

In 1967 Gunnel's Chapel (another church that will be dealt with further in this paper) merged with Pleasant Grove because of declining membership.

In May, 1968, the denominational name of the Old Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren Churches were changed, because of their merger, to the United Methodist Church. In that year, the Pleasant Grove Congregation learned that they would be welcomed into the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church. The congregation was afraid that leaving a church with such small membership open would be costly so in a vote taken on Sunday, March 28, 1968, at 11:00 a.m., the Pleasant Grove congregation chose to merge with the newly forming William Watters Church.²³ Thus, the congregation handed over the Pleasant Grove churchhouse, the unused Gunnel's and a building fund of \$416.51 to William Watters United Methodist Church. Members of Pleasant Grove became charter members of William Watters Church, and on Palm Sunday, 1968, the churches joined in worship, officially ending the Pleasant Grove congregation.²⁴

Thus, a small Black congregation in a Northern Virginia rural community struggled to establish a church. One family, the Sharpers, because they were particularly instrumental in establishing and maintaining the church, has been honored by having the church commonly known by their name. Faith sustained the congregation but the vicissitudes of time caught up with them and a dwindling membership caused a merger, with William Watters Church, that ended a century of singularity, of a community cornerstone.

GUNNEL'S CHAPEL METHODIST CHURCH LANGLEY, VIRGINIA

Before the American Civil War (1861-1865) the Southern sympathizers at the McLean Nelson's Chapel (where the first American born Methodist Minister, William Watters, worshipped) split and formed Trinity Church. The Black members of Nelson's Chapel continued to worship there until 1866, when they split and worshipped at Robert Gunnel's house.²⁵ Gunnel's house was said to be the first place a Black could worship freely in Fairfax County, Virginia.

In 1866 a two story building was erected where Gunnel's Chapel now stands. This structure was very simple. It was also the first Negro school house in the area.²⁶ The Black congregation from Nelson's Chapel worshipped here.

As the congregation grew and the school house became more delapidated the congregation began to look for a more suitable house of worship. In December, 1879, Robert Gunnel gave the school house exclusively to the congregation as a church.²⁷ The old building was torn down and a new one room building was constructed. This new church was opened under the Washington Conference, Lynchburg District, Langley Circuit of the Methodist Church.

On Sunday, June 25, 1899 a cornerstone-laying ceremony was held at Gunnel's Chapel²⁸ This cornerstone-laying ceremony was a large affair and the congregations from miles around came to contribute money towards the finishing of Gunnel's Chapel.

The trustees at the time of the cornerstone-laying were as follows:

W. H. Robinson	Nathaniel Coates
David Webb	Henson Wayne
George Morgan	A. J. Fry ²⁹
Alford Lewis	

During the next half century little information is available but it is evident that the congregation grew. The church was small and had no adjoining land for a burying ground. Most of the members were buried at other churches in the area, especially Pleasant Grove.

The Rev. C. C. Wilson (see above history of Pleasant Grove Methodist Church) served Gunnel's Chapel as well as Galloway Methodist Episcopal Church and Pleasant Grove Methodist Church from 1938 until his death in 1959.

With the merger of the Washington and Baltimore Conferences, of the Methodist Church, around 1960, Gunnel's Chapel was among those Northern Virginia Black churches that joined the Black North Carolina Conference.

The years took their toll and Gunnel's Chapel's membership declined and in 1967 the congregations decided to worship with Pleasant Grove. The building of Gunnel's Chapel was given to Pleasant Grove and the majority of the Gunnel's Chapel congregation joined the Pleasant Grove congregation in worship at the larger Pleasant Grove Church, the others electing to worship at churches nearer to their own residences.

Throughout a century of the existence of Gunnel's Chapel, a number of families distinguished themselves as faithful friends of the church. A number of them are as listed:

The Jackson Family	The Fairfax Family
The Douglass Family	The Burk Family
The Robinson Family	The Greyson Family

The Webb Family
 The Lewis Family
 The Coates Family
 The Morgen Family

The Hariss Family
 The Hatcher Family
 The Boston Family³⁰
 The Wayne Family³¹

Gunnel's Chapel, another congregation, very similar to Pleasant Grove, grew and, for a time, flourished. Again the members of the congregation served as building blocks for the community, but time took its toll and the diminishing congregation elected to merge with Pleasant Grove. This merger marked the conclusion of a community institution.

FOOTNOTES

¹Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory #174 (December 13, 1971) [p. 1].

²C. J. S. Durham, A letter to Nan Netherton (April 7, 1975, Great Falls, Va.) [p. 1].

³*Ibid.*

⁴Mr. and Mrs. (Salome Otrich S.) Cornelius Costley, Personal Interview (Great Falls, Va., May 12, 1979).

⁵Raymond F. Wrenn, "The End of The Beginning" (McLean, Va., 1977, Mimeographed) p. 4.

⁶Costley, see footnote 4.

⁷There was some question as to the correctness of the date. A mimeographed publication entitled "The Seventy-First Anniversary of the Pleasant Grove Methodist Church" supported 1892 and not 1882 as other evidence argued. The mimeographed paper states the most conclusive evidence.

⁸Costley, see footnote 4.

⁹*Ibid.*

¹⁰Historic . . . , see footnote 1.

¹¹"The Seventy-Five Anniversary of the Pleasant Grove Methodist Church", (McLean, Va., 1963, Mimeographed) [p. 2].

¹²Costley, see footnote 4.

¹³*Ibid.*

¹⁴"The Seventy-First . . .", see footnote 11.

¹⁵*Ibid.*

¹⁶Raymond F. Wrenn, see footnote 5.

¹⁷In 1872, under pressure from alcohol prohibitionists, most American Protestant Churches changed their communion wines to unfermented grapejuice; but Pleasant Grove and Gunnel's Chapel stayed with the old fermented wines. Rev. Moore, Personal Interview (McLean, Va., May 14, 1979).

¹⁸"The Seventy-First . . .", see footnote 11.

¹⁹Rev. Moore, Personal Interview (McLean, Va., May 14, 1979).

²⁰"The Seventy-First . . .", see footnote 11.

²¹Mrs. C. W. Aukward, Personal Interview (May 19, 1979, Falls Church, Va.).

²²"The Seventy-First . . .", see footnote 11.

²³Costley, see footnote 4.

²⁴*Ibid.*

²⁹Robert Gunnel was a trustee of Galloway Methodist Episcopal Church in Falls Church. "A Brief History and Origin of Galloway M. E. Church" (Falls Church, Va., 1958, Mimeographed) [p. 2]. There has been, in recent years, some question as to his race; but it now appears certain that he was predominately Black as many of his relatives are living today in the Fairfax County area as are some who were acquaintances of his, who can attest to this fact.

²⁸"One Hundredth Anniversary of the Gunnel's Chapel Church". (Langley, Va., 1967, Mimeographed) [p. 2].

²⁷*Ibid.*

²⁶"Cornerstone-Laying", (Washington, D.C., 1899, J. Bishop Jackson, The Printer) [p 1].

²⁵*Ibid.*

³⁰"One Hundredth . . .", see footnote 26.

³¹Costley, see footnote 4.

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William Watters, and affiliates, 1977 (Mimeographed)

The author would like to thank the following people whose help has been instrumental in preparing this paper:

Mrs. Salone Otrich S. Costley—an ex-treasurer of Pleasant Grove Methodist Church.

Mr. Cornelius Costley—an ex-steward of Gunnel's Chapel Methodist Church.

Rev. Moore—the minister of William Watters Methodist Church.

Mr. William Weems—A member of William Watters Methodist Church.

Mrs. C. W. Aukward—an ex-steward of Pleasant Grove.

THE WPA IN FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

by Andrew Levetown
Langley High School
McLean, Virginia

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Mrs. Edna Bicksler
Mr. Paul P. Petersilia
and
Mr. John Gott

The WPA¹ came into being during the Depression when over 12 million people were unemployed. Its purpose was to create jobs and to stimulate economic recovery. The program cost \$11 billion and employed 8.5 million people. The WPA hired unskilled laborers, mechanics and college graduates, all of whom worked side by side constructing 116,000 buildings, 78,000 bridges and 651,000 miles of road. In addition to construction projects, the WPA sponsored programs to employ actors, writers and artists. A significant amount of the artistic production of this period was attributable to the WPA.

Despite these broad-ranging and large-scale activities of the WPA on the national level, Fairfax County, a community located in the shadow of the nation's capitol, had relatively few WPA projects assigned to it. It was not that the residents of the County had been untouched by the economic chaos around them. Of the 32,000 citizens in the County in the early 1930's 1,000 heads of households were unemployed.² Citizens found the relatively light burden of County taxes to be oppressive and strenuously demanded the reduction of County salaries and the complete elimination of many County offices in April, 1933.³ T. Mason Hirst, a local realtor, also appeared before the County Board to ask that the "wholesale foreclosure of deeds of trust and of mortgaged property (for delinquent taxes) be stopped by the courts by a moratorium declared for at least two years."⁴

The people of Fairfax County, and the County Board of Supervisors that represented them, were conservative and resentful of the Roosevelt Administration. They were also fiercely independent, and reluctant to

Mr. Levetown won third prize in the 1978-79 high school historical essay contest sponsored by the Historical Society.

ask for what they considered to be federal handouts. The very process by which a WPA project had to be initiated—through a specific request from the local government to the federal authorities—was considered an affront by the County Board.⁵

The citizens of the County viewed matters no differently. Very few of them enrolled for relief and, therefore, their availability to work on WPA projects which regularly drew on the relief rolls for labor was not immediately apparent. Mr. Aubrey Williams, Deputy Administrator of the WPA, explained that as a result of the fact that “the relief load has been and still remains unusually light”, the WPA was reluctant to undertake any extensive highway projects in Fairfax County.⁶

People in Fairfax County were able to avoid the relief rolls by growing vegetables in their own garden plots and by existing on a bare subsistence economy.⁷ In addition, a number of able-bodied men found work on Department of the Army projects which was not looked down upon as welfare.⁸

Of those people in the County who did accept WPA jobs, many were ashamed of that fact. Incredible as it may seem, one of the former participants in this program who is now well into her seventies, has never admitted to this day to her family that she worked for the WPA.⁹

The irony of this situation is that the few WPA projects that did exist in Fairfax County were useful undertakings that were efficiently managed by conscientious individuals. The principal County projects were the sewing center, supervised by Mrs. Eula Barnes, and construction work which was often supervised personally by Mr. Albert Peter-silia, Director of the WPA for Northern Virginia.

The sewing center was intended to make wearing apparel and bedding for unemployed families. It was located on the site of the present court house in the top floor of a small building. The federal government supplied all the necessary funding and materials but, on more than one occasion, Mrs. Barnes felt that the material supplied by the government was inappropriate and, consequently, purchased other materials with her own money.¹⁰ Mrs. Barnes also supplied all the patterns used at the sewing center.

The 35 women who worked at the sewing center were paid \$25 a month to work 14 hours a day, 5 days a week.¹¹ Many of these women were very young, most of them having just graduated from high school. Although Mrs. Barnes took these girls under her wing in a protective, motherly fashion, she nevertheless insisted upon high standards of work and, under her tutelage, the sewing produced first-quality clothing.¹² Mrs. Barnes was so essential to the functioning of the sewing

center that when, in accordance with standard WPA practice, she was laid off after 15 months on the job, even the economy-minded County Board volunteered to pay her salary so that the work of the sewing center could continue.¹³

Mr. Petersilia, who supervised the WPA construction work in Fairfax County, had come to the Washington area in 1918 as a supervisor for the Dan Zimmerman Construction Company. He had been transferred from Philadelphia to work on the Alexandria power plant that was being constructed on the Potomac River.¹⁴ Eventually he went into business for himself and became the owner of one of the largest construction companies in Alexandria.¹⁵ Mr. Petersilia had a personal net worth exceeding a quart of a million dollars before the Depression; after the Depression began, he was "broke".¹⁶

He had been politically active during his contracting days, however, and because of this and also because of his construction experience, he was named WPA Director for Northern Virginia. Although he was now a federal employee, he continued to manage the construction jobs under his supervision with the efficiency and thrift of a private entrepreneur. During the depths of the Depression, he even managed to find a market for the fill dirt his men removed in the course of excavating.¹⁷

In Fairfax County, Mr. Petersilia and his crew of novice workmen graded and leveled the playgrounds of sixteen schools, improved the acoustics in a school auditorium, built sidewalks, curbs and gutters on Main Street in Fairfax City, and rebuilt and installed heating facilities in the Fairfax jail. He supervised every step of his projects. His conscientiousness eventually cost him his life after he caught pneumonia staying up two entire days and one night to supervise the pouring of concrete in the rain.¹⁸

Other WPA projects in Fairfax County included the compilation of a directory of the name, address and telephone number of every County resident; the compilation of a real estate transaction index which listed on cards the last seven transactions on each piece of property in the County for the purpose of assisting the Commissioner of Revenues to properly assess the land for tax purposes; and the employment of seven clerks in local government offices, four library assistants, one visiting housekeeper (who doubled as a midwife), and one small boy who was hired to mow the court house lawn.¹⁹

All in all, the activities of the WPA in Fairfax County could not by any stretch of the imagination be fairly described as a "massive boondoggle" whatever the appropriateness of that reputation might have

been for the national WPA program. Further, there is absolutely no basis for concluding that the Fairfax projects in any way sapped the moral fiber of its hard-working participants. Finally, there is abundant evidence that the character and outlook of the County's citizenry had a wholesome affect on the efficiency and purpose with which the local WPA projects were carried out.

FOOTNOTES

¹Works Progress Administration, later changed to Works Projects Administration in 1939.

²Fairfax County, Virginia: a history, by Nan Netherton (and others) Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, 1978. p. 613.

³Fairfax County, Virginia: a history, p. 613.

⁴Fairfax County, Virginia: a history, p. 613.

⁵Interview with Mrs. Edna Bicksler, former time-keeper on a WPA sponsored Sewing Project. May 22, 1979.

⁶Letter written by Mr. A.D. Lewis (United Mine Workers) written to Mr. Aubrey Williams, Deputy Administrator of the WPA. January 11, 1938.

⁷Interview with Mr. Paul P. Petersilia (son of Mr. Albert Petersilia, Director of the WPA in Northern Virginia). May 20, 1979.

⁸Letter written by Mr. Aubrey Williams, written to Mr. A.D. Lewis. January 11, 1938.

⁹Interview with Mrs. Edna Bicksler, May 22, 1979.

¹⁰Interview with Mrs. Edna Bicksler, May 22, 1979.

¹¹Interview with Mrs. Edna Bicksler, May 22, 1979.

¹²Interview with Mrs. Edna Bicksler, May 22, 1979.

¹³Board of Supervisors Minutes, August, 1938.

¹⁴Interview with Paul P. Petersilia, May 20, 1979.

¹⁵Interview with Paul P. Petersilia, May 20, 1979.

¹⁶Interview with Paul P. Petersilia, May 20, 1979. "One day he (Albert Petersilia) was worth a quarter million dollars, thirty days later, every one of us (the family) sat around a table in a house that no longer belonged to us and we didn't have two dollars and a half."

¹⁷Interview with Paul P. Petersilia, May 20, 1979.

¹⁸Interview with Paul P. Petersilia, May 20, 1979.

¹⁹Interview with Paul P. Petersilia, May 20, 1979. Albert Petersilia was a "fanatic" about concrete work and insisted upon supervising "every shovel full" of cement that went into the ground.

²⁰Interview with Mrs. Edna Bicksler, May 22, 1979.

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**Republished from *Gleanings of VIRGINIA HISTORY*¹
an Historical and Genealogical Collection,
Largely from Original Sources**

**FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA.
THE POLL LIST FOR THE ELECTION OF BURGESSES FOR FAIRFAX
COUNTY IN THE YEAR 1744.**

This county was entitled to two members in the House of Burgesses. The names of the candidates were Col. John Colville, Capt. Lawrence Washington, Capt. Lawrence Washington, Capt. Lewis Ellzey, and John Sturman. Two candidates only were to be voted for by the same person. The names of the voters are recorded under the names of the candidates for whom they voted.

Col. John Colville	Capt. Law. Washington	Capt. Ellzey	Jno. Sturman
Esq Fairfax	Esquire Fairfax	Magr Cock	Daniel Deskins
Catesby Cocke	John Grant	Chas Green	Thos Bosman
John Grant	James Scott	Daniel Deskins	Richard Carpenter
James Scott	James Keith	Jas Dixon	James Lane
James Keith	John Graham	Saml Harris Sr	Jno Hartley
John Graham	Thos John	Edw Norton	Edw Graham
Thos John	Col Blackson	Jno Hampton	Jas Roberts
Thos Brown			
Col Blackburn	Daniel Hart	James Lane	Jno Allen
Daniel Hart	John Hamilton	Amos Jenney	Moses Linton
Charles Green	Nimrod Hitt	Wm Kitchen	Geo Dunbarr
John Hamilton	Thos Beach	Jno Hartley	Thos Willis
Thomas Lewis			
Nimrod Hitt	William Dodd	Abel Jenney	Wm Simpson
Thomas Bosman	Amos Jenney	Saml Stone	Jno Hatshorn
Thomas Beach	John Shaddedin	Francis Hange	Jno Roberts
James Dickson	Abel Jenney	Edmond Sands	Andrew Hutchison
Thomas Lewis	Samuel Stone	Jacob Jenney	Rich'd Simpson
Samuel Harris Sr	Daniel French	Jerh Fairhurst	Wm Harle
Edward Norton	Geo Harrison	Thos Brown	John Roberts
William Dodd	John West	Geo Simpson	Jno Keen
Richard Carpenter	Rich'd Sanford	Fredr Wilks	Jno Canady
Jno Shadedin	Thos Marshall	James Roberts	Jno Guest
Daniel French Jr	Balwin Dade	Henry Netherton	Jas Wyatt
George Harrison	Henry Peyton	Jno Allen	Thos Lewis Jr
John West	Zeph Wade	Geo Dunbar	James Grimsley
Richard Sanford	Jerh Bronaugh	Jno Grantham	Jno Trammell
Thomas Marshall	Francis Hage	Wm Simpson	Amithl Ashford
Balwin Dade	Edmond Sands	Ger'd Trammell	Wm Roberts
Henry Peyton	Jacob Janney	Darl Young	Thos Windson
Zeph Wade	Edw'd Grymes	Jno Roberts	Wm Peake
Jerh Bronaugh	Col Eltinger	Vincent Lewis	Jno Ferguson
Cornelus Ellengee	Jerh Fairhurst	Jac Sanders	Wm Barae
Robert Sanford	Robert Sanford	Andw Hutchinson	Wm Smith
Thos Monteith	Thomas Monteith	Lewis Sanders	James Keen
Robert Baker	Jas Jacobs	Richd Simpson Sr.	Thos Kicks
Nathaniel Chapman	James Wilks	Jas Smith	Christo Pritchett
Vall Peyton	Robert Bates	Abram Lay	Thos Owsley
Benjamin Adams	Nathaniel Chapman	Wm Harle	Wm Moore
Nathaniel Popejoy	Val Pelton	Jno Roberts Sr	Wm Buckley
Stephen Lewis	Nathaniel Popejoy	Jno Canady	Wm Hawling
W K Terrett	Stephen Lewis	Wm Barkley	Fielding Turner
Townsend Dade	W H Terrett	Fielding Turner	Philip Noland

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Col. John Colville

William Clifton
John Turley
William Bartlett
John Grantum
Owen Williams
William Stribling
Henry Watson
John Mede
Cenths Neale
William Gunnell
Moses Ball

William Gunnell Jr
James Daniel

Jas Sanders
Gilbert Simpson
Wm Williams Jr
Henry Brent
Thos Carney

Abraham Lay
Gabriel Adams
Wm Saunders
Bryant Allison
Jno Jenkins
Jno Keen
Jno Musgrave
Wm Davis
David Thomas
Ezekiel Jenkins
Jno Guss
Gabriel Adams Jr
David Richardson
William Hall Jr
Jno Ellett
Jno Manly
Thomas Lewis Jr
George Taylor
Richard Wheeler
Henry Gunnell
Wm Grymes
Wm Perkins
Wm Bailston
Wm Bowling
Samuel Warner
Michael Ashford
Wm Jenkins
Bland Durran

Capt. Law. Washington

Townsend Dade
Wm Clifton
Moses Linton
John Turley
Wm Stribling
Henry Watson
Garret Trammell
Author Neale
Daniel Young
Jno Hartshorn
Wm Gunnell
Moses Ball
Wm Gunnell Jr
Jas Daniel
Gilbert Simpson

William Williams Sr
Henry Brent
Thos Carney
Gabriel Adams
Wm Saunders
Jno Jenkins
Benj Adams
Owen Gilmore
Jacob Romey
Rich Malumdro
Jno Ashford
Daniel Thomas
Charles Broadwater
Saml Conner
Wm Windsor
Thos Moxley
James Waugh
Charles Griffin
Jas Robinson
Robert King
Thos Whitford
Jno Minor
Wm Champneys
Jno Masgrove
Wm Davis
David Thomas
Ezekiel Jenkins
Gabriel Adams Jr
James Wyatt
Saml Tillett
Jno Aylatt
Jas Grymsley
George Taylor
James Jeffery

Capt. Ellzey

Jacob Reny
Rich Ornshandro
Thos Penson
David Richardson
Job Carter
Samuel W Tillett
Baxter Simpson
Jno Trammell
James Jeffery
Richard Wheeler
Henry Gunnell
Wm Crimes
Wm Boydston
Thos Wren
Wm Roberts

Thos Winsor
Rich Kirkland
Bland Dunran
Daniel Trammell
Jno Higgeson
Wm Barton
Wm Wright
James Spurr
Wm Barker
Wm Smith
Jno Bronaugh
Thos Hall
Thos Ford
Rich'd Kirkland
Benj Sebastian
James Keen
James Turley
Thos Hicks
Wm Moore
Jno Lucas
Wm Shortridge
Wm Buckley
Jno Hurst
Edward Ennus
Wm Halling
Philip Noland
Wm Roirdon
Joseph Garrett
Thos Smith
Jno Martin
Owen Williams
Robert Thomas
James Halley
Wm Kirkland
Wm Scutt

Jno. Sturman

Rich Coleman
Wm Ashford
Wm Meckley
Thos Smith
Jno Martin
Jno Cockrell
Jno Robinson
Wm Trammell
Abraham Lindsay
Jacob Smith
Francis Summer
Jno Melton
Henry Baggers
Robt Foster
Jas Ried
Thos Standall
Jas Murray
Sml Conner
Chas Griffin

Wm Boundreal

Col. John Colville

Robert Bagges
 Francis Triplet
 Jno Taylor
 Owen Gilmore
 Wm Peake
 Jno Farguson Sr
 Guy Broadwater
 James Spurr
 Daniel French Sr
 James Jenkins
 John Bronaugh
 Jno Baxter
 Jacob Lucas
 Thos Hord
 Richard Kirkland
 Sampson Darrell
 Levell Jackson
 John Lucas
 Wm Shortridge
 Hugh West
 John Husk
 Garrett Alexander
 Isaac Simmons
 John Summers
 Thos Falkner
 Wichard Coleman
 Jno Summers
 William Ashford
 Wm Reardon
 Francis Aubrey
 Walter Williams
 William McBee
 Thos Darris
 Wm Trammell
 [Valandingham]
 Thos West
 Michael Valandigam
 [Valandingham]
 Capt Chas Ewel
 Jno Cockerill
 Wm Gladding
 Wm Kirkland
 Jno Gladding
 Thomas Ellet
 Bertram Ewell
 John Straham
 William Stutt
 John Diskins
 Robert Diskins
 Christopher Neale
 Jadwin Crutcher
 Jacob Lawful
 Jas Reid

Capt. Law. Washington.

Wm Perkin
 Thos Wrenn
 Wm Bowling
 Samuel Warner
 Wm Jenkins
 Daniel Trammell
 John Hiskerson
 Wm Barton
 Robert Boggess
 Francis Triplet
 Wm Wright
 John Taylor
 John Manley
 Guy Broadwater
 Daniel French Sr
 James Jenkins
 John Baxter
 Jacob Lucas
 Benj Sebastian
 Christopher Pritchett
 Thos Owsley
 Sampson Darrel
 Lovell Jackson
 Garrat Alexander
 Hugh West
 Edward Ennus
 Thos Faulkner
 Francis Aubrey
 Walter Williams
 Thomas Dams
 Josiah Garrett
 Thomas West
 Michael Valandigam
 Chas Ewet
 Wm Gladding
 John Gladding
 Thos Ellet
 Bartram Ewell
 John Straham
 John Meade
 John Diskins
 Abraham Lindsey
 Josias Clapham
 Henry Baugus
 Christo Neale
 George Plat
 Robert Foster
 Jadwin Crutcher
 Bryant Allison
 Jacob Lawful

Jacob Smith
 Jno Gorham
 Francis Summers
 Jno Melton
 Josiah Clapham
 Geo Adams
 Geo Foster
 Daniel Thomas
 Jno Ball
 James Waugh

Jno Hampton
 Wm Kitchen
 Jos Jacob
 Geo Simpson
 Henry Netherton
 Vincent Lewis
 Lewis Saunders
 James Smith
 Thos Penson
 Job Carter
 Baxter Simpson
 Rich S I Kirkland
 Thos Hall
 Sam Turley
 Isaac Simmonds
 Robert Thomas
 John Robinson
 John Goram
 Geo Adams
 Geo Foster

Thos Scandall
Wm Hall Sr
James Murray
John Ashford
Chas Broadwater
Wm Winsor
Thomas Moxley
John Ball
James Robinson
Robert King
Thos Whitford
John Junior
Wm Champneys

A copy Poll List for the House of Burgesses, recorded
Liber A, No. 6, page 237, and examined.

Truly Recorded,

A copy, Test,
F. W. Richardson, Clerk.

Test, CATESBY COCKE, *Cl, Cur.*

Fairfax county was formed in 1742 from Prince William. At the date of this poll, in 1744, it still included what is now Loudoun county. The latter, however, was detached in 1757. The voters whose names are given in the foregoing list were included, therefore, in the inhabitants then living within what are now Fairfax and Loudoun counties.*

*I may be of interest to note the fact that in the year 1769 the House of Burgess of Virginia passed an act concerning the manner in which members of this body should be elected. Section 7 of said act provides as follows: "And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, That after publication of such writs, and at the day and place of election, every freeholder actually resident within his county shall personally appear, and give his vote, upon penalty of forfeiting two hundred pounds of tobacco to any person or persons who will inform or sue for the same, recoverable, with costs, by action of debt or information, in any court of this dominion." Hening's Statutes, vol. 8, page 308.

MEMBERSHIPS AS OF JUNE 21, 1978

(S) denotes sustaining members

Mrs. Jackson M. Abbott	Mr. and Mrs. Stewart L. Bryce
Mrs. Walter D. Addison	Mr. Richard R. Buckley
Mr. Robert A. Alden	Mr. and Mrs. Horace D. Buckman
Mr. Herbert L. Aman, III	Mr. and Mrs. John V. Buffington
Mrs. Lawrence M. Ames	Col. and Mrs. Lanier D. Buford
Miss Ellen L. Anderson	Mrs. Elizabeth C. Burke
Mr. Richard L. Anderson, Jr.	Mr. and Mrs. Scot Butler
Mrs. Mary P. Ardai	
Mr. and Mrs. John H. Ariail, Jr.	
	Mrs. Regina T. Callahan
Radm. and Mrs. Leo Bachman	Mr. Vincent F. Callahan, Jr.
Mrs. Catherine I. Bahn	Miss M. Patricia Carey
Mrs. Donald E. Ball	Mrs. Bright M. Carper
Mr. William C. Barbee	Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Carper
Dr. and Mrs. John G. Barmby	Mrs. Agnes A. Carren
Mrs. M. F. Barnette	Mr. Richard M. Carrigan
Mrs. Kenneth F. Bartlett	Mrs. Olivia L. Carson
Mrs. John B. Bazuin	Mrs. Frank M. Carter
Mrs. William M. Beaven	Miss Margaret B. Caton
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Mr. and Mrs. Joseph G. Berry, Jr.	Mr. and Mrs. G. Norman Cobb
Radm. Richard Blackburn Black	Mr. and Mrs. Beverly M. Coleman
Mrs. Montague Blundon	Mrs. Sara Collins
Mr. and Mrs. August Boesche	Dr. and Mrs. Hugh E. Conway
Mr. and Mrs. Francis Bohan	Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Cook
Mrs. Paul A. Bokel	Mrs. Elizabeth Miles Cooke
Mrs. Charles L. Bolte	Mr. John G. Corboy
Mrs. Channing M. Bolton	Col. and Mrs. Arthur J. Cornelson
Mrs. Maureen Bovet	Mrs. Ruth B. Cornfield
Mr. and Mrs. A. Smith Bowman	Mrs. Hugh B. Cox
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Sen. and Mrs. Adelard L. Brault	Mr. Johnny J. Cristea
Mr. and Mrs. Allen Brauningner	Mr. Richard E. Crouch
Mr. and Mrs. Clement S. Brineman	Mr. H. Glenn Cunningham
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brockhurst	Mrs. Paul M. Curran
The Hon. and Mrs. Paul R. Brockman	
Mrs. Herbert J. Brooks	Mrs. William R. David
Mr. and Mrs. E. Huntington Brown (S)	Mr. and Mrs. Bernley S. Davis
	Mr. and Mrs. S. Cooper Dawson, Jr.

Mrs. John D. DeBell (S)
 Mrs. Gloria Delanty
 Mrs. Reid M. Denis
 Mrs. Francis R. DeRoberts
 Mrs. Dorothea deWilde
 Mr. L. Mitchell Dick
 Mr. Henry H. Douglas
 Mrs. Thomas Dowling
 Mr. and Mrs. George M. Downard
 Mrs. W. G. Downey, Jr.
 Mrs. Effie C. Dunstan
 Sen. Clive L. DuVal, 2nd
 Mr. Kent Dyer

Mrs. Rosemary B. Eadie
 Ms. Anna Eberly
 Mr. and Mrs. L. Rice Edwards
 Miss Inga Eglitis
 Mrs. Elizabeth Shirley Enochs
 Mrs. Henry F. Epstein
 Lt. Col. and Mrs. Melvin Anderson Estes
 Mr. Bayard Evans
 Mr. and Mrs. Denzil O. Evans
 Mrs. Stuart J. Evans

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 Lord Nicholas Fairfax (Honorary)
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 Mrs. Dorothea W. Feigley
 Miss Maureen Finnerty
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph J. Fitzgerald, Jr.
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 Mr. and Mrs. Herman Franklin
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 Mrs. Ward Freeman
 Mrs. Lucy Post Frisbee
 Mrs. Dayton H. Frost
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 Mr. James E. Hoofnagle
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 Mrs. J. Franklin Jones
 Mr. Virgil C. Jones
 Mrs. Richard L. Jordan

Mr. Jefferson Randolph Kean
 Mrs. Nancy B. Keeran
 The Hon. and Mrs. James Keith

Mrs. Malcolm Keith	Mr. and Mrs. R. C. L. Moncure
Mrs. George P. Keller	Mrs. Robert Morgan Moxham
Mr. and Mrs. Kenton Kilmer	Mr. James M. Moyer
Col. and Mrs. William F. Kirlin	
Mr. and Mrs. William E. Knight	
	Mrs. Ross D. Netherton
Mr. and Mrs. A. Slater Lamond (S)	Miss Frances E. Nevitt
Mr. and Mrs. Barent F. Landstreet	Miss Mary E. Nevitt
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Mr. and Mrs. Christopher M. Lipsey	
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Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Mackall	Mr. Richard C. Peck
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Maley	Ms. Robin Pedlar
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Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Mayobre, Jr. (S)	Mrs. Katherine Barrett Pozer (Honorary)
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Mr. Robert N. McKenney	Mr. and Mrs. Ernest W. Reisner
Mrs. Frank A. McNicol	Mrs. Charles J. Rieger, Jr.
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Mrs. Robert L. Miller	Mrs. Don C. Ritchie
Mr. and Mrs. Larry R. Mills	The Hon. and Mrs. Charles Robb (S)
Miss M. Helene Mitchell (S)	Mr. Hugh Lee Robertson
Mr. and Mrs. Laurence M. Mitchell	Mr. Clarence J. Robinson
Mr. and Mrs. Myles B. Mitchell	Mr. and Mrs. Murray F. Rose
	Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Roysdon

Mr. T. Triplett Russell

Mrs. Cordelia Grantham Sansone (S)

Mrs. Carolyn A. Saunders

Mr. and Mrs. Winston D. Saunders

Miss Margaret Scattergood

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Schaaf

Mr. Joseph F. Schaeffer

Mr. Donald A. Schuder (S)

Mr. and Mrs. William Roberts Scott

Miss Helen M. Seth-Smith

Mr. Mark S. Shaffer

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Shands (S)

Miss Betty Lou Shaver

Mr. Charles P. Shephard

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Mr. and Mrs. J. Knox Singleton

Mrs. Allan T. Slatt

Mrs. Marion M. Slaterry

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Mr. and Mrs. Paul E. Thompson

Mr. Richard Thompson